

# VALLEY FARMER.

A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy,  
Adapted to the wants of the people of the Mississippi Valley.

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## The Valley Farmer.

### State Agricultural Fair.

We give on page 91 Mr. Maupin's Report on this subject to the Legislature, which was accompanied by a bill, which has since become a law. We have not seen the bill nor any account of it except the following from the Boonville Observer. We shall publish the law in our April number, and also such information as we can obtain in relation to it.—We need say nothing at this time of the importance of the measure. Our views are well known:

'Last week we presented to our readers the synopsis of a bill introduced by Mr. Maupin into the Legislature, appropriating \$1000 a year for four years, for the purposes of offering prizes for fine stock, productions and manufactures in our State. We are rejoiced to see the people awakening to a just appreciation of the benefit arising from a stimulus given to agriculture by such means; and we shall hail the passage of this bill as a bright omen for future benefits to Missouri, by producing a rivalry among her citizens that will prove beneficial to all classes of community.

'A State Agricultural Society will be the means of bringing together, once a year, people from all parts of the State, with their stock, productions and manufactures. It will create a spirit of emulation that will develop our resources, show the fertility of our soil, the variety of our stock of horses, mules, cattle, hogs, &c., our mechanical implements and manufactures, our farming utensils, &c. And we may expect a large number of visitors from other States with improved stock and farming implements; many of which we may find it to our interest to adopt.

'The bill proposes to hold the fair in the

vicinity of this city, and as the people of this county have already organized a society with some \$500 or \$600 subscribed, we do not doubt it could be raised to \$1200 or \$1500, which with the State premiums would afford prizes that would be contended for by a large number of persons.'

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—This Society held its first annual meeting at Washington, Feb. 9, 1853, Hon. M. P. Wilder, President, presiding. About one hundred members from the different States were present. An opening address was delivered by the President, which will be published in the April No. of the Valley Farmer.

Communications were received from a Committee of the N. Y. Crystal Palace, and from the Metropolitan Mechanics Institute inviting co-operation with those bodies.

Resolutions were adopted to memorialize Congress to establish a Department of Agriculture, to be presided over by a Cabinet officer, as are all other departments of the Government, and also to transfer the annual appropriation of \$5000 to the Commissioner of Patents, for the purchase and distribution of seeds, &c., to the National Agricultural Society.

Hon. Marshall P. Wilder was re-elected President, and one Vice President from each State and Territory was chosen. Hon. T. F. Atchinson being chosen Vice President for Missouri. C. C. Calvert, of Maryland, was appointed Chairman of the Executive Committee; J. C. G. Kennedy, Cor. Sec.; W. S. King, Recording Sec.; W. Selden, Treasurer.

The annual meetings will hereafter be on the 4th Wednesday of February.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

**Osage Orange—Wolves—Potatoes.**

GREENFIELD, Mo., Feb. 4, 1853.

MR. ABBOTT,—Please inform me in your valuable publication whether the 'Osage Orange' and the Texas 'Bois d' Arc' are the same thing, [a] and if so we would like to have more said on the subject of hedging with it. Give particular directions about sowing the seed, preparing the ground, and the time of planting in this latitude. I have taken your 'Farmer' the last year, and feel well paid for my money—hence I renew.

I have just received three pecks of Bois d' Arc seed, which I wish to hedge with. Is it best to plant them where I want my hedge, or should I put them in a nursery first, and then transplant? [b] How far above the ground should they be cut when one year old? How far above that the second year? And how far apart should they be set? [c]

I would like for some of the contributors to the Valley Farmer to give us some directions about extracting or killing wolves or worms in the back of cattle. I know all poor cattle have worms, or as they are frequently called 'wolves' in their backs, and the idea is to get rid of them. [d]

**Irish Potatoes.**—Has any of the correspondents of the Valley Farmer ever tried raising Irish Potatoes from the seed growing in the bolls? [e] Would Wisconsin potatoes brought as far south as this do better here than our native potatoes? [f] Is there any Wisconsin potatoes in St. Louis for sale? [g]

NELSON McDONALD.

## REMARKS.

a Bois d' arc—*maclura aurantiaca*—and Osage Orange are one and the same plant. We have been giving our views for four years past on the subject of using it for a hedge.—Those who would go over the whole ground nowever we would refer to the February number of the last year (1852.) We have a few copies of this number on hand which we can furnish to those who wish them. Or we can furnish a few of the bound volumes of 1852. The price of the bound volume is \$1.25; of the single copies, 10 cents.

**CULTIVATING THE OSAGE FRANGE.**—A writer in the Prairie Farmer gives the following account of his mode of rearing the Osage Orange.

My Osage Orange I sowed in a bed, in rows two feet apart, quite thick. I put the seed in a bucket and poured warm water upon them; changed the water every morning to prevent the acid from killing the germ; soaked four days; they were swelled about twice their common size when I put them in the ground, finely

ly prepared; they came up in seven days and grew finely. I kept them entirely clear from weeds, and when one year old I set them in the fence. I prepared the row by plowing and harrowing well; then I began in the winter and threw five furrows together to form a ridge; in the centre of that ridge I ran a deep furrow out and back very deep for the plants. The ground being in fine order I put on my buckskin mittens, and with a heavy sharp knife, I cut them within four inches of the ground; then with a heavy spade made at the blacksmith's, for the purpose of making sod fences, for I have a hand at that also, I dug them up with ease, cut the tap roots to eight inches; I put them in a basket and a small child handed them while I with a common trowel, set them working backwards all the time; then a person following with a hoe, rounding up and stamping down to make them stand fast. In this way I set three thousand, eight inches apart, in a very short time. Thirty only died. I was prevented last year from cutting as I ought to have done except a short piece. I shall bend them down next spring, instead of cutting, to make them thick. They now stand about four feet high, and it is a difficult matter to drive a horse through them. I ought to have mentioned that the Osage Orange, or Bodark, as some call it, has stood three winters on my farm without the least injury by frost.

b You had better transplant; otherwise you will have an uneven hedge.

c When they are one year old they should be cut off close to the ground, and then set out in the hedge; the ground for which should be prepared in the following manner: Prepare a strip about six feet wide by deeply and finely pulverising with a surface plow, followed by a sub-soil; the furrows thrown to the centre so as to form a ridge, which ridge is to be opened by running a single furrow thro' it. In this furrow set your plants, six to ten inches apart, drawing the dirt about them from the ridges so as to leave an even surface. This strip should be tended with the plow and cultivator, until the hedge is sufficiently large and close to turn any kind of animal from a pig to an ox, which will be in two years more if it is properly managed. About the middle of June, after transplanting cut the growth down to within four inches of the ground, and in the fall or spring following cut it back again to six inches. Cut it down again in June to eight inches and in the fall or spring to ten or twelve inches. Cut away the later-

all branches which shoot out from below the cutting, but leave all that incline to interlace with the neighboring stems. The great desideratum is to get a hedge which shall be close at the bottom. The top will grow fast enough. The hedge will always require trimming once a year. This is one way of trimming which has been recommended; but Prof. Turner's mode is somewhat different: 'I have never,' says he, 'in a single instance, known or heard a young hedge being cut too low or trimmed too often, but I have known miles upon miles ruined, so far as small pigs are concerned, by the opposite course. If I was to make the best possible hedge, I would cut close to the ground the first time, and then cut every shoot off all summer, as it rose six inches above its fellows, down to the ground level, and never leave 'snakes heads,' as I call them, to sitck above their fellow, for a single day at least not for a single week, and this is but little trouble, if the operator will hang a sharp stout, Dutch sickle, upon a common hoe handle, which makes the best possible hedge plasher for a young hedge, worth all the shears and common plashers in the market, and is moreover the most economical and useful tool on the place to trim shrubbery, head in fruit trees, cut small patches of grass, etc., that can be had.

d Allen says that these 'are grubs, the egg of which is deposited in the back of cattle by the gad-fly, (*Estrus Bovis*.) They are discernable by a protuberance or swelling on the back. They may be pressed out by the thumb and finger; or burnt by plunging a hot wire in them; or a few applications of strong brine will remove them.

e Can't say as to any of our correspondents, but the Editor has tried it and seen it tried. During the prevalence of the potato rot, about seven years ago our father planted a quantity of potato balls and raised a quart or more very small potatoes, varying in size from a pea to a pea-nut. These he planted the next spring and obtain a peck or more of potatoes of all sizes up to that of a hen's egg. There were among them evidently several varieties. They were planted the next year and produced good sized potatoes, of several marked varieties. Some of them were cooked and

were remarkably fine, but most of them were saved for planting time but before planting time came, the rot took them as it did the rest of the potatoes raised on the place, and thus ended that experiment, which was made in hopes of obtaining a new variety of potatoes which would not be affected by the rot.

f The experience of gardeners here, is that they will do rather better, after one season's acclimating.

g There are plenty of Galena potatoes; which is about the same thing.

For the Valley Farmer.

### Improvement of Agriculture.

MR. EDITOR:—Every individual who has observed the condition of Agriculture in the West, and who feels a laudable pride in its prosperity, must be anxious to see still greater improvements made. Feeling some solicitude in the matter, I have taken my pen up to make a few suggestions on the subject.

In the first place, the seeds of general intelligence should be sown broadcast over the land. Knowledge to the farmer is just as necessary as it is to the lawyer or physician, or any other professional character. Did our farmers understand Geology, Chemistry, Botany, and most of the natural sciences, and apply the knowledge thus acquired to husbandry, we would behold naught but the smiles of peace and plenty at the door of every cottager. Ignorance will forever impede the progress of agricultural improvement, knowledge will accelerate the movement.

There is no greater mistake than for a farmer to think he has no great need of education. And probably no false notion has done so much irretrievable mischief. The press—the agricultural press I mean—should labor to remove or correct this mistake.

In the second place, every farmer should subscribe, pay for, and read at least one agricultural journal. The good effects of agricultural papers cannot be told by your humble writer. It has appeared strange to me, to see men who claim the honorable name of farmers, so short sighted to their own best interest as not to spend one or two dollars annually for such papers, especially when it is so obvious to all who have tried them, that they are

of incalculable benefit to their patrons. These same 'penny-wise and pound foolish' farmers will frequently spend twice or thrice as much for slanderous political papers. Now, I am not at all opposed to patronizing good political papers, to the contrary—every one who has the right of suffrage should take one or two. At the same time it is the duty and interest of such a one to take a paper devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, &c. For by pursuing and practicing the advice generally contained in them, no one can fail to be greatly benefitted in a pecuniary point of view.

Many of the best practical farmers contribute their views and results of their experiments to such journals; and those who read them, can avail themselves of this immense mass of information and thereby grow wealthier and wiser as time rolls on. To my mind the man that refuses or neglects to peruse articles on agriculture and thus add to his means of doing good, is a recreant to his family and his country. I would, therefore, advise every farmer to subscribe forthwith for the Valley Farmer, or some other agricultural periodical.

In the third place, Agricultural associations should be formed in every County. It is a trite but true saying, that 'two heads are better than one.' The farmers by forming societies of this kind will promote their own mutual benefit, and by so doing add greatly to the aggregate wealth and happiness of the nation. They are calculated to encourage a laudable emulation among farmers which is indispensable necessary to the advancement of the agricultural interests. By awarding premiums to the successful competitors, an impulse is given farmers that nothing else can give.

Old Boone, Howard, Pettis, and a few other Counties in Missouri, have already set an example in this way worthy of universal adoption. The 'Statesman' and 'Sentinel' printed in Boone tell us that many valuable importations of fine stock have been made into that county, and that a better spirit prevades among the farmers. Like causes produce like effects; and were most of the counties to form agricultural societies, a brighter era of improvement would surely commence in Mo.

Go on then, friend Abbott, in the way you have commenced. The Farmer has already

done much in the good work—more will be accomplished in future I trust.

SOL. D. CARUTHERS.

For the Valley Farmer.

### Hollow Horn.

MR. EDITOR:—In your January number we see an article written over the signature of 'A Farmer,' on the subject of a well known and prevalent disease among cattle called hollow-horn. Now we would be glad if the writer would give his authority for saying there is no such disease. We are very sure from information that there is a disease called hollow horn, and we know that the horns of cattle do get hollow. We are also of the opinion and that too from experience, for we have been raising horned cattle for the last twenty years, that while that farmer is going to his hen house for his drugs and preparing his drench, we can take the very articles he condemns and effect a more speedy and effectual cure and with less than half the trouble, than he can with all the hen pepper tea he can boil in a week.

A STOCK RAISER.

JACKSON Co., Mo., Feb. 11, 1853.

### Wheeler's Horse Powers,

THRESHERS, SEPARATORS, CLEANERS, SAW MILLS, FEED CUTTERS, AND CLOVER HULLERS.

As we are repeatedly asked about our arrangements for supplying these truly excellent machines the coming season, we would take occasion to state that we have now a full stock on hand and expect to be in receipt of ample supplies in season for the coming harvest.—Our terms, as heretofore, will be the Albany prices, with the addition of transportation charges, and we shall continue to sell for one third cash, one third in six months and the balance in nine months, the purchaser giving good secured notes bearing six per cent interest from date of purchase. Every machine we sell is warranted to work as recommended, allowing the purchaser to be the judge; and in every instance of dissatisfaction, the articles will be returned (within 60 days) and the purchase money will be refunded.

The two horse Power, Thresher and Separator is capable of threshing, with from three





to five hands, from 150 to 200 bushels of Wheat per day, or about twice that quantity of Oats; and is so compact that the whole can be placed and used conveniently on a common barn floor of ordinary size, or may be carried on one wagon with two horses, the weight being about 2,900 pounds. Price at Albany \$145, in St. Louis about \$175.

*The one horse Power, Thresher and Separator* is well adapted to the use of Farmers raising an ordinary quantity of grain. It is capable of threshing, with two or three hands, from 75 to 100 bushels of Wheat per day, or twice that quantity of Oats. It occupies so little room that the whole can be conveniently used on a floor 12 by 24 feet, and when not in use, occupies a space not exceeding 3 by 14 feet. Price at Albany \$120, in St. Louis about \$145.

*The Combined Thresher and Winnowing* is so simple in construction that the works are all driven by two hands, which includes the one which gears it to the horse power. There is consequently but little friction produced, and the liability to get out of order, which complicated Machines are subject to, chiefly avoided. The *Thresher and Winnowing* is well adapted to Field Threshing, being light and compact, and requiring but little time to load and unload it. The whole Machine, including the Horse Power, is conveniently carried on a two horse wagon, the weight being less than 2500 lbs., and can be unloaded and set in readiness to work in less than 30 minutes and re-loaded ready to move in the same time. Price at Albany, with Horse Power, \$225, at St. Louis about \$260.

*The Feed Cutter* is simple and compact, having four plain, straight knives which are attached in such a manner that they may be taken off and ground, and then replaced without producing the least variation. All the wearing parts are made so that they can be adjusted by means of screws, with a common wrench, and any person can keep the Machine in the most perfect order. In cutting corn stalks they are crushed between strong iron feed rolls, and being cut short, the coarse stalks are split into small pieces, which reduces the whole to very fine feed. They are capable with one horse, of cutting 150 bushels per hour. Price at Albany \$28, in St. Louis \$33.

*The Saw Mill* is used on most Railroads in the country for Sawing Wood for locomotives, and by Farmers for Sawing Wood for stores, &c.; and also by lumber-men for cutting up Slabs.

With a one horse power it will cut ten to fifteen Cords of Wood, twice in two, per day; with two horse power it will do much more.—Price with 24-inch Saw, in Albany, \$35, in St. Louis \$40.

*The Clover Huller* is small, simple and durable, and does its work perfectly, without injuring the seed. It is capable of hulling from five to ten bushels of seed per day, with one horse, taking the chaff as it is prepared by the Separator, when threshed from the straw with our Machines. Price in Albany \$28, in St. Louis \$33.

Address E. Abbott, Editor of the Valley Farmer, St. Louis, Mo.

SNOW HILL FARM, Louisiana, Mo. }  
Feb. 16th 1863. }

TO THE ED. VALLEY FARMER.—*Dear Sir.*—I have been waiting some considerable time to meet with some gentlemen who promised me in the summer of last year, to subscribe for the Farmer, should I not meet with them in a week or two I will take it for granted that they will subscribe, and on my own account will forward you their subscriptions along with my own and others who subscribed last year, all of whom will continue for the present year.

I consider the Valley Farmer of great importance to the forming interest generally, and trust sincerely that they, the farmers, will be mindful enough of their own interest to support a paper so highly calculated to advance their own prosperity. You have wisely on many occasions taken notice of our sneering at book farming, a prejudice which I trust for our interest is fast fading away. I shall give you an outline of my own feelings so far as book farming (*so called*.) is concerned. I am the son of a lawyer in Scotland, to whom I was articled as an apprentice entirely against my disposition. We lived a mile and a half from the town in which my father practiced in the Supreme Court, and walked home every evening to our residence in the country, where we had a small farm of 154 acres. My father had for a foreman one of the best plowmen in Scotland, as well as one of the most skilful cultivators. My love for agriculture was strong and ardent, and I sought the earliest opportunities of being in the field in the morning with this man at the plow—my father seeing my strong desire to become a farmer forbade his foreman to let me handle the plow. My next recourse was to steal out of the office as often as I could and range through the booksellers' stores for works of merit on agriculture. Sir John Sinclair's was my first. I was by this time in my mind fully made up to be a farmer. I used to brief till 1 o'clock every morning for my father in order to be able to buy agricultural works, and was paid for that service the same as any other hiring, 1-2 d. per sheet.

I was now in my 16th year and had read most all of the ablest works on agriculture to

be found in the book stores in Scotland, and although by stolen snatches I had learned to use the plow in a masterly manner. I now got an uncle enlisted in my favor who advised my father to allow me to be apprenticed to Mr. Watson, of *Farfar Shire*, one of the most accomplished farmers in Scotland, and where I had the advantage of a splendid agricultural library, as well as ample practice in the field—here I served three years—paid £100 per annum for tuition, board and washing, and worked on the farm along with the other men all the time as hard as man could do. My experience thus obtained from able authors, and reduced to practice in the field, gave me some important advantages as a beginner and young farmer. My means being small for the purchase of a farm in Scotland, but ample in this country, I made up my mind to emigrate along with fifty others in the same predicament. We settled side by side and soon found that much that we had learned in Scotland, had to be forgotten here, and fall back upon works published in our midst for information, and in this way I was able to correct the mistakes I made in my first year's operations without serious loss, which I would have been subject to had I been obliged to find out every thing from experience. I therefore look upon a native work of good merit on agriculture as the farmer's safest and best friend;—and such I consider the Valley Farmer. One thing I must observe to you before I close—what is the reason you sometimes neglect to quote the St. Louis market price for potatoes? This to me is a matter of much importance, as I grow large crops. When I came to this county (Pike) there was nothing to be seen but small patches three years ago, but now there is a strong desire in my neighborhood to cultivate largely. I will in conclusion give you my views on this crop, and which will compose my answer to many private enquiries.

I shall now give you my experience in potato cropping, and of which I believe I have raised the largest crop ever made in this county, both in acres and amount per acre.

First in the selection of seed—the Perthshire Red I hold to be the best and most prolific potato that can be found in this country, for fall crop. Second, manner of cutting the

sets and when. Fall potatoes ought to be cut by the first of May, with two good eyes to each set; and should be placed in a barn and spread out quite thin where there is plenty of air to give the sets a good opportunity of healing or the cuts drying, but should not be exposed to the sun—turning them frequently while in this state, so that all the sets may be perfectly healed, and which will not exceed four days; after this turn them into a thin, long row against the north side of your barn, to prevent sprouting before the time you are ready to plant, which ought to be, in this latitude, on or as near the 12th of May as circumstances will permit. This is my manner of preparing my potato seed; and I will now give you my manner of preparing my land. All land intended for potatoes ought to be tilled and manured the fall previous, and in the spring as early as the frost leaves the ground in good condition—plowed, I mean plowed indeed, not less than eight inches deep, just as early as it is dry enough in the Spring it ought to be plowed crosswise to the way in which the drills are intended to be drawn, and that ought to be, if the lay of the land will permit, straight north and south. Previous to commencing drilling the land ought to be well and thoroughly harrowed and prepared evenly for drilling, which operation ought to commence as near the 10th or 12th of May as possible. A pair of stout able horses ought to be selected for this purpose, as it is of great importance to open the planting furrow as deeply as possible—just as deep as the mould board of a good Tobey & Anderson No. 6 plow can command the earth. As early as the horses go into the field two hands (*boys*) for planting should follow them, and two can plant as fast at ten inches distant between the sets as a pair of high traveling horses can go, at the same time having another stout, smart horse attached to a small one horse plow for the purpose of following the planters and the horses taught to walk on the top of the drill, so that in covering he may not injure the sets by walking in the planting furrow. The drill ought to be composed of two furrows—throwing the one to the right going up the land, and returning down in the very same furrow, but holding deeper in order to clear the planting

furrow deep and clean; in coming down in the return furrow the land horse ought to walk on the top of the drill and the furrow horse on the land, and on going up the land again the furrow horse should not be permitted to walk in the furrow, but should be taught to walk close on the edge of the down furrow. My reason for recommending this manner of working the horses is because it adds to their strength. In order to make 30 inches wide, which a potato drill ought to be, if the furrow horse be allowed to walk in the furrow the plow will not have land enough to compose such a drill unless the swingletrees are attached to a long coupling tree and the horses' heads widely separated, a practice very distressing to the horses. Now for my manner of covering with the small plow after the planters. Make the horse walk on the top of the drill going up the land and return down the land with his feet in the furrow which the plow made going up the land or down first as the case may be—thus throwing one furrow to the one side and the other furrow to the other, splitting the drill evenly. The crop being now in the ground, the next thing for the farmer to do, is to watch the sprouting of the potato, the time of which varies according to the season. The farmer must watch and try every now and then what time his seed has sprouted, say two inches long, then is the time to put on the harrow and harrow crosswise of the drill until the land almost presents a level appearance. By this time many of the sprouts will be showing their white points through the drill and which in the course of a day or two the action of the air will render quite green; this practice insures a regular stand of plants—then as soon as the potatoes are all through, take a small pairing plow and take away a light furrow from each side of the row, keeping the hoe following the small plow let them stand in this way for eight or nine days then take the small plow and set up a light furrow to the plant making a hand with a hoe follow each plow regulating the earth about the roots of the plants and drawing loose earth over the weeds. They may now be allowed to stand a week or so in this way, but not longer, as if heavy rains fall the stems will fall over the drill and impede the cultivation, at the end of

a week take a No. 6 Tobey & Anderson plow and attach a stout pair of horses to it in the tandem style, the one horse going right before the other in the hollow furrow, holding the plow deep, and at the same time muck on her land side in order to produce a drill with a wide and flat main, so as to give the plants full benefit of the rains and atmospherical manures that both fall in rains and dews. Should the potato stems fall over the drills before the last plowing, a hand must go before the plow and first turn with his hand, to the one side and then to the other, if any farther weeds rise they must be taken out by hand, especially tall weeds that shade the ground potatoes delight in clean culture, air, and light, and plenty of good air to live upon.

Should any of your subscribers not have prepared their ground last fall they may yet do so with good advantage in March, or first week of April—not later—cross plow the lands again before drilling, my practice in Scotland was to manure the potatoes in the drill at the time of planting, a practice which I would not now recommend, as since that time the potato has waxed much weaker and requires very little provocation to rot. The manures which I would most recommend to be applied in the drill are wet or rotted, or half rotted straw, leaves from the woods, chips and bark from the log pile after the winters chopping of wood at the homestead, or a good sprinkling of wood ashes spread along the drill—all of which, nearly at all times the farmer can command. There is no plaster of paris, &c., &c., here which are sometimes expensive for the farmer to obtain, and sometimes beyond the beginner's reach. Recommendations of expensive manures many a time hinder the farmer from doing as well as he might, provided he had been talked plainly to of things within his reach. But it is not to be understood that I do not recommend plaster of paris as a fertilizer, but there are other things more within the reach of every farmer which I would recommend more, viz: a systematic manner of cropping and seiling—say for instance, the three shift crop; first potatoes, then barley, sowing clover along with the barley; the field will be then in clover the third year, the first crop of which may be cut off

and fed to hogs, horses, and cattle, in a well arranged barn yard, making all the manure you can. Hogs are good hands at this kind of work. When it is too wet to dress potatoes it may not be too wet to haul mould and leaves from the woods, muck from the swamp, or grass from the prairie. The second or after math of clover should be plowed down, putting all the available manure previously on the clover; it may be plowed down any time before frost takes it or it loses the bloom. All the manure you can spare should be evenly spread over the clover and both plowed down together, then next year put it in potatoes again. This I call active working of the soil. Should it be of any interest to your readers, I will in due time give you my manner of harvesting and saving my potato crop. It may be wondered at by some at my allusions to the Tobey & Anderson plow. It is because I consider it the best general and easy draught plow I have ever tried in this country.

Yours, &c.,

D. A. KINNEAR.

From the Western Horticultural Review.

#### Maclura Hedges.

My object in this article is to meet some objections to the Osage Orange Plant itself, inasmuch as my experience tells me that there is no known plant so peculiarly adapted to the purpose, and so valuable to our Agricultural interests. Its surprising properties are no longer a problem. Some writers are yet disposed to class it among the 'humbugs,' and many doubt its utility, but amongst them all you will not probably find much, if any experience.—If rightly managed it makes the best and cheapest fence in the world without any objection whatever.

Believing then, as I do in the extraordinary properties of the Osage Orange (Maclura) for making Live Fences, I will state what I believe the best mode of cultivation and management, in as few and plain words as practicable, so as to be understood by the inexperienced—with the hope that all interested persons may practice, and enjoy its benefits.

In order then to make the seed vegetate surely and quickly, they require to be soaked a long time in warm water—usually three four or five days, but always until they are very much swollen, and partially sprouted.—The water should be kept warm all the time.

The nursery should be located with care. It should be a rich sandy loam. If you have none such—prepare the best spot you have, by deep and thorough cultivation, mixed with



well rotted manure, if not otherwise rich enough—make the drills about a foot apart and before dropping the seed send to the woods and get some of the richest and sandiest mould you can procure,—drop the seed, and cover with the woods mould an inch or an inch and a half deep. If the seed are well soaked—the ground clear and strong, they will all make their appearance before the weeds and grass will interfere with them. So soon as they are well up, the greatest care will be necessary to avoid the labor of hoeing and weeding, which can only be done by mulching well with leaves, cut straw, saw dust, or tan-bark. I name the mulching material in the rotation I think they answer best. The whole nursery should be covered, except only the plants; and put on thick enough to prevent the grass and weeds from appearing; by doing so all further labor will be avoided.

They are better not to be planted too early in the Spring—the middle of May is soon enough.

The next Spring they are ready for setting in the Hedge—the ground for which should have been well prepared the previous fall, by subsoiling, and manuring if necessary, and again in the *very early* Spring plowed and harrowed and rolled repeatedly till completely pulverized—then drive the stakes,—lay the line and spade the trenches. More care is necessary in *taking up* plants to insure their growth, than is usually observed; and more with this, as it is desirable that every one should grow. The tops may be cut off to six inches and the roots pruned proportionally. Set the plants in a double row, six inches apart, diagonally—thus\* \* \* \*—a foot apart in each row making them equal to six inches in a row. As soon as planted mulch *deeply* with leaves, straw, saw dust, or tan bark, and they will want no further attention till the next spring at which time, the pruning commences, and you begin by cutting all off within an inch of the ground—in the middle of June cut all the tops again to within four inches of the former cutting—the next Spring cut to within five inches of the preceding, and again the middle of June to within six inches, and so continue cutting each Spring and June, increasing the distance an inch each time, till the Hedge is high enough. By this means you thicken the Hedge perfectly all the way up and when grown it will require the less pruning from there being no large stalks. By pruning the tops only while growing, the side branches become the stronger, they can afterwards be pruned and thickened, till it may be made impenetrable to a bird. The mulching may require some renewing the second year, but afterwards the shade of the Hedge will prevent the interference of the grass and weeds.

The plants should never be set further apart than I have recommended above—particularly in strong soil, as the further apart they are set the stronger they will grow, and create so much more pruning after the Hedge is grown, or otherwise be objectionably high. Neither will the roots extend so far when closely set.

The Hedge should be fully protected from stock for the first two years. Moles often burrow under the Hedge, destroying the roots—to remedy this, make the ground 'dishing' where the plants are set two or three inches lower than the sides, which is found effectual and the plants flourish better.

The pruning may be made a comparatively small job, by using a strong knife for the purpose about two feet long. A common grass-hook answers pretty well; and some labor may be avoided by pruning in the fall, before the wood becomes hard, in place of the spring. The plant bears it so well, that there is no danger.

'The 'plashing,' 'plaiting,' or 'interlacing,' when rightly done, may make a perfect fence, and quite ornamental—particularly while young—but it is expensive; and for common purposes, I would not recommend it further than to stop a gap.

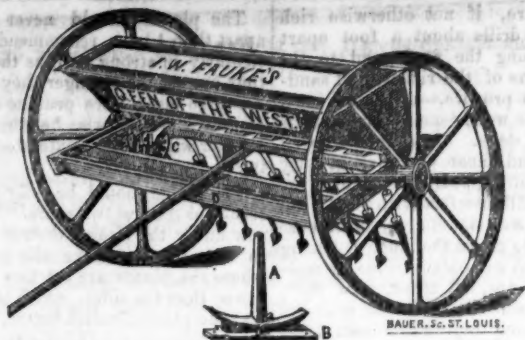
I am persuaded that the plant may be used much farther north than has been admitted. For the first two or three years the limbs will be severely nipped by the frost, but not to injury of the fence. Respectfully,

WILLIAM NEFF.

STOCK FOR CALIFORNIA.—We learn that Mr. W. P. Fenn, the enterprising dairyman of this city, has made arrangements to send one hundred and fifty head of cows over the Plains this spring to California. The stock has been purchased and is ready to be started as soon as the weather shall have become mild enough to warrant it. A brother-in-law of Mr. Fenn's goes over in charge of the drove. From the demand which seems to exist for cows in California, we have no doubt but that Mr. Fenn will realize an excellent profit.

We learn from Mr. Fenn, that with the cows which he is to send to California, he is to start a dairy in the vicinity of one of the largest cities of the Golden State.—*St. Louis Intelligencer.*

THE HOG DISEASE.—Upwards of 800 hogs died at Carrolton, Ky., in February. The disease is not confined to the pens at the distilleries. It is said to resemble the hog epidemic which swept over this region about eighteen years since. The first visible symptom of its approach is drowsiness, and in most cases death ensues in an hour. Occasionally there is bleeding at the nose.



### Seed Sowers.

Ft. MADISON, Io., Feb. 17, 1853.

To the Editor of The Valley Farmer:

I wish to know whether there is any kind of an implement in your city for sowing grass seed, and the cost also. Please answer these inquiries by letter or through the paper as best suits your convenience. J. H. C.

We give above a cut representing a machine for sowing all kinds of seed broadcast and also by a different arrangement of its apparatus for drilling. This machine will be for sale by Wm. M. Plant & Co., in a few days, and is represented as a very valuable invention. The price will not probably vary much from \$80, and it will sow some 25 or 30 acres a day.

The front chamber in this machine, which is the sower, has a movable false or second bottom, made of sheet iron pierced with holes of the size adapted to the kind of seed to be planted. An eccentric motion is given to this bottom by the movement of the machine, so as to allow the seed to pass through the fissures constructed in the stationary bottom. By a slight alteration of its attachment it may be made to plant any desired quantity of seed to the acre.

The rear chamber is arranged for drilling; the seed passing through the flukes or spouts in regular rows.

Such is a slight description of the machine as it has been represented to us. When we have an opportunity to examine it ourselves we shall speak more at length of its merits.

### Trimming the Osage Orange.

MR. EDITOR:—I have a string of Osage Orange fence some four years old and have always trimmed it with my knife. I wish to

know what kind of an implement should now be used to make good progress in trimming; what it would cost, and whether it can be bought in St. Louis.



The pruning shears are used somewhat for this purpose. They can be bought at any of the agricultural warehouses, and cost \$1 50 to \$3 00.



An implement somewhat resembling the above is also used for this purpose. It can also be had at the warehouses and costs \$1 50.

For Prof. Turner's mode of trimming see page 82, this issue.

PEACH BORERS.—Having in my garden a very vigorous peach tree, and observing that it was very much affected by borers, especially in the forks of its limbs, I began to cut them out. Still I was afraid that this operation, to be performed in many places, might injure the tree, and as I had some very fine, almost pure white clay prepared, I plastered the limbs of the tree with it, and closed, when the plastering cracked in becoming dry, the cracks by rubbing them over with a painter's brush dipped in water.

The plastering became hard enough to withstand the effects of rain for several weeks, after the elapse of which of which all the borers were dead. The wound caused by them healed quickly over, and the tree is as healthy as it can be.

### There's Room Enough for All.

What need of all this fuss and strife.

Each warring with his brother?

Why should we, in the crowd of life,

Keep trampling down each other;

Is there no good that can be won,

Without a fight to gain it;

No other way of getting on,

But grappling to obtain it?

Oh! fellow-men, hear wisdom then,

In friendly warning call—

'Your claims divide; the world is wide—

There's room enough for all!'

What; if the swarthy peasant find

No field for honest labor?

He need not idly stop behind,

To thrust aside his neighbor?

There is a land of sunny skies;

Where gold for toil is given;

Where every brawny hand that tries

Its strength can grasp a living.

Oh! fellow-men remember then,

Whatever chance befall:

The world is wide, where those abide,

There's room enough for all.

From poisoned air ye breathe in courts,

And typhus-tainted alleys;

Go forth and dwell where health resorts,

In fertile hills and valleys.

Where every arm that clears a bough

Finds plenty in attendance.

And every furrow of the plough

A step to independence.

Oh! hasten then, from fevered den

And lodgings cramped and small!

The world is wide in land beside

There's room enough for all.

In this fair region far away.

Will labor find employment;

A fair day's work, a fair day's pay,

And toil will earn enjoyment.

What need then, of this daily strife,

Where each wars with his brother?

Why need we through the crowd of life,

Keep trampling down each other?

From rags and crime that distant clime,

Will free the pauper's thrall;

Take fortune's tide, the world so wide,

Has room enough for all!

There is not room if one may own

The land that others toil on;

If gold be dug or grain be sown

For drones to gorge and spoil on;

But if to each the equal chance

To plow and dig be guarded,

To competence may all advance

Through honest toil rewarded.

There's room, and more than room, we know,

And gold beyond the mountains;

Then let the land, and chance for gold,

Be free as nature's fountains.

### Report of Committee on Agriculture

#### *In Missouri Legislature.*

The Committee on Agriculture beg leave to submit the following report:

Among the various matters which have come under their consideration, they have given their careful attention to one subject, that from its important bearing on the best interests of the State, seemed to demand especial care at their hands. The committee allude to the formation of a STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, and they are happy to state that they present this report as the fruit of their harmonious action, and their unanimous recommendation.

In approaching this subject, your committee have deeply felt its importance and the vastness of its influence. They have witnessed, with pleasure, the manifestations, evinced in various portions of the Union, of the great progress made in agriculture, and of the increasing interest in its promotion and development. They have read, with satisfaction, notices of agricultural journals starting into being in nearly every State—at once the result and the guide of popular sentiment, and they have heard with equal delight, of the formation of numerous State and county agricultural societies; an index of public feeling as healthy as it is general, and with such proofs before them, and with the conviction that forces itself upon every reflecting mind from daily observation, your committee do not hesitate to recommend the great science of husbandry, as the most important of earthly pursuits, the most ample and productive field for scientific research, and the most appropriate object of Legislative protection.

Your committee recommend it as the most important of earthly pursuits, because, in a country like ours, there depend not only upon it the acquisition of permanent prosperity, but also the very support of our existence. It is also the most productive subject for science, not only because it furnishes the elements of combination and analysis, but also the fairest, the most untrodden and the most varied field for the operations of human enquiry; and for these reasons, do your committee recommend this great subject as the most appropriate object of legislative attention.

In Missouri particularly, is agriculture the basis of prosperity, of wealth and of commerce. With its fertile soil; its majestic forests and its luxuriant prairies, our State stands confessedly among the first of the States of the Union, as an agricultural and pastoral region. We have a soil admirably adapted to the production of every staple that contributes to the support of human life. Our central position between the north and the south will always give to Missouri a prosperity and a

commerce that can, if necessity require it, be self-sustaining; as an evidence of this, we can raise, with equal facility, wool for our winter, and cotton and flax for our summer raiment; our forests can supply us with sugar, our salines with salt, our extensive prairies can feed countless herds of stock, and in no part of the earth do the cereal crops grow with such luxuriance and such variety. While we have these great advantages, possessed by so small a portion of the earth's surface, we are blessed to an unusual degree with great natural outlets of trade, even if they should not be rendered unnecessary by the various railroads projected by the present general assembly.

Your committee leave, with regret, this interesting theme of the great agricultural and pastoral resources of our State, to approach that which is the subject of their present recommendation. Presuming the fact, (which cannot be denied) that agriculture must soon form the chief occupation of our people, your committee believe that they would not properly discharge their duty, unless they urged upon this general assembly considerations, that, in their opinion, would not only enhance the profits of their occupation, but materially abridge its labors. These important results would to a certain extent, follow from the formation of a State and county agricultural societies, where friendly conflict of opinion would elicit reflection, and operate with salutary influence—where the various agricultural productions of the State would be gathered together for inspection—where improvements, in every part of husbandry, could be seen and suggested—and where above all the people could assemble, without political or religious strife, and unite in generous emulation, to carry on to perfection the noblest science under heaven, and return to their homes with hearts elate with gratitude to the Lord of the harvest for the comforts that they enjoy, and the blessings that surround them.

Your committee here beg leave to state a few of the resulting advantages of a State society.

1. The first great good, and the influence of which will perhaps be soonest felt, is the *improvement of our stock.*

We take it for granted that every member of this general assembly is aware of the comparatively high prices that are now paid for stock of all descriptions in this State. A few years since, horses, mules, cattle, sheep, and other animals would scarcely pay the expense of their raising. It has been but a short time since, that a yoke of steers could be bought for twenty-five dollars; now they are worth from \$50 to \$75. Mules, that a few years since, could command about \$35 now readily sell for \$75 to \$100, and so on in proportion with other live stock. Your committee regret to be forced to acknowledge that the great

difference of price is not the result of any improvement in our stock, nor of any increased care in raising. Our farmers, with some few exceptions, are pursuing the same system that they have followed for years, and that will infallibly keep their stock at the lowest market ebb.

As the prices they are receiving for scrub stock, pay very well for a feeding that is made up of a few corn shucks and nubbins in the open air in the winter and the range in the summer, they feel no temptation to spend their money, thus easily acquired, in the purchase of improved breed. The consequence is that no improvement is visible, and no emulation is excited. To effect this improvement, and to stimulate this emulation is one of the main objects, and in the opinion of your committee, one of the sure results of agricultural societies. Your committee beg leave to cite one among many instances of the effect of association for the purpose of introducing improved stock into the community.

In the State of Ohio in the year 1833, certain public spirited individuals, 48 in number, associated themselves for the purpose of improving the breed of cattle in that State, and forming a joint stock company, having 92 shares at \$100 per share, in all \$9200, sent an agent to England, who purchased 19 bulls and cows of the short horned Durham stock. These were kept together until 1836, when a sale took place under the regulations of the society, and after paying all expenses, there resulted to each share the net dividend of \$280. One cow and calf is reported as having sold for \$2,225 (See patent office report, 1851-2, page 100.) Now if this great result can be effected in Ohio, where the winters are longer, where a greater extent of feeding is required and where lands and grain are higher than with us, why cannot the same result be effected here?

Your committee take this occasion to express their surprise (a feeling that is experienced by a majority of this general assembly) that with rich and verdant prairies around us, abounding in grasses that are luxuriant and nutritious, so little attention has been paid to stock raising. Millions of acres of our richest prairies are never trodden by the foot of a domestic animal, and grasses that have sustained thousands of buffalo, and would still sustain immense herds, are suffered to bloom and die unnoticed and uncropped. This should not be. Missouri is eminently pastoral, and it is hoped that her people will not be slow in partaking of the benefits of her wasting treasures, and the hope is still further entertained that when flocks and herds shall be scattered over our boundless pastures, they will be found to consist of those breeds that will add to the credit of the State, and the profits of their owners.

Your committee believe, that by comparison



of stock at a State Fair, an increased interest in the care and maintenance of this class of property will be the inevitable result. These fairs will become not only the source of generous competition, but the best and surest markets for the products of the farm. The best animal that the country affords will be there exhibited, and by exchange and sale, an interchange of blood will be promoted, an essential feature in the production of vigorous and healthy stock. Poor and inferior animals will not be exhibited, because of the expense of transportation and the difficulty of sale, and your committee believe, that after a few years of trial, that our State fairs will not only attract to the place of exhibition the best stock of the country, and the largest purchasers, but will, in consequence, stimulate the rearing of breeds that will give to our State a high and enviable pastoral reputation.

There are also considerations of private interest that will aid very materially the efficiency of State and county fairs. With that proneness to take advantage of every circumstance that advances his interest, the western farmer will soon find that the feeding and cost of raising a scrub animal is almost as great as those of rearing one of pure blood, (the only difference being in the size of the carcass, the larger requiring more food than the smaller.) He will also find in the profits from the sale of each, a wonderful discrepancy, and he will not be slow to adopt a system of improvement and management that swells his gains and does not increase his labors.

Before your committee leave this branch of their subject, they beg leave to add a few remarks on one kind of stock, and to recommend it particularly to the favorable consideration of the farmers of the State. It is the subject of *sheep husbandry*. If Vermont with its cold climate, its scanty vegetation, and its long winters, can ship wool and mutton at a great profit, why cannot Missouri, with its exhaustless pastures and mild climate, make this branch of domestic economy a source of revenue? While the former State raises, among its bleak hills, 3,410,993 pounds of wool, Missouri, with her boundless prairies, and a territory more than seven times as large, raises 1,614,860—less than one half as much. It is a singular fact, that with confessedly the best country on the globe for sheep, we import more wool than we raise. The total wool crop of 1850 in the United States, was 52,518,143 pounds, while the imports annually, of the same article vary from seventy to fifty millions. In Missouri there is one woolen factory, employing twenty-five hands and consuming 80,000 pounds of wool annually.

Under this state of things there is no danger of a glutted market. While it is contended that sheep improve the lands on which they

feed, and it is admitted that they furnish a most nutritious and healthy food, it is equally true 'if history is to be credited, that no country has ever existed, where due regard was paid to the propagation of the fleece, that has not become wealthy.'

2d. Another benefit of agricultural associations is *improvement of our agricultural implements*.

While it is contended, by some, that the improvements in our plows, &c., are entirely the result of accident, it is with more force, contended that all such improvements are the effect of careful examinations. A comparison of the defects and advantages of the various farm implements exhibited will lead to combinations that will reject the first, and adopt the latter, and each succeeding fair will exhibit alterations and changes that have previously been subjected to severe and accurate tests.

We shall improve in this department of husbandry, your committee believe, with great rapidity. The spirit of enquiry and invention now so much alive on this subject in the Union, will not cease until improvements and innovations are made, and labor abridged to such an extent as will make this age, a few years hence, appear an age of comparative barbarism.

These innovations will consist not merely in mechanical changes, but some motive power stronger, more efficient and more rapid, will take the place of animal labor. Your committee will be excused for hazarding the prediction that half a century will not elapse before mechanical agency will completely supersede our horses and oxen; and plows, grain cutters, harrows, &c., will be driven by machinery with a force and exactness that machinery can alone effect. Until that day comes we must await the progress of improvement; but there is every reason to believe that, when this 'consummation, most devoutly to be wished for,' shall come, its advent will be greatly accelerated by comparisons, examinations and trials made at the agricultural exhibitions of the country.

3. Another great benefit resulting from associations of this kind, is '*the knowledge we gain of the best manures for our lands, the adaptation of our soils to our different staples, and the best method of their culture.*'

This knowledge, imparted through lectures, essays, addresses and familiar conversation, will be of inestimable importance to our farmers, and can be best diffused through agricultural societies. Your committee can not but deplore, as a serious evil, the system of culture that is now generally pursued in this State. In some sections the land is thought to be too fertile to be exhausted, while in others, the abandoned fields and deserted farms, with their deep gullies and bald points, exhibit in painful contrast, the fallacy of this

opinion.

Agricultural chemistry has long since taken its stand as a high and ennobling science. It is now occupying the intellects of some of the most distinguished men of our age, and the day is not far distant when every intelligent farmer can learn, with ease, why it is that his fields will produce one crop in great abundance and fail in another—why it is that some manures injure, and some are beneficial—why it is that one kind of culture will repay him for his toil, while another is but labor thrown away; and why it is that a judicious rotation of crops will leave his land richer with each succeeding year. Through essays and lectures, such as agricultural societies promote, such valuable information can be widely disseminated, and can be made more effectual than in any other mode known to your committee.

4. Your committee refer with pleasure to a 4th resulting good. *It is the increased quantity, quality and variety of fruit and flowers.*

They feel great satisfaction in referring to the advantages possessed by this State for the production of the greater variety of fruits grown in the United States. It seems to be the home of the apple, the pear, the peach, the plum, the quince and the cherry, and the quick perceptions of our farmers, are turning this advantage to good account, for orchards and nurseries are arising around us in every direction. The agreeable and refreshing taste, the pleasant aroma, and the supposed healthiness of ripe fruit will always create for it a demand, with every class of the community, that will make its culture a matter of considerable interest. Your committee believe that a society, like that we recommend, will be the best means of aiding in the increase and extension of this agreeable and useful branch of farm husbandry.

To the lovers of the beautiful in nature, and to those who recognize in flowers, the fairest and most delicate creations of the Almighty's hand, a State fair offers temptations in the amount and variety that usually attend on such exhibitions.

Lastly, your committee beg leave, in this connexion, to call the attention of the general assembly to the *culture of the vine*. This is a rapidly increasing production in our State. Missouri stands 6th upon the list of wine producing States, having in 1850, made 10,563 gallons. Our woods are filled with wild grapes which, on cultivation, greatly improve in size and flavor, and will by such continuous treatment, no doubt, in a few years equal the best grapes of France and the Rhine. The culture of the grape is confined to a few counties, of which Gasconade and Osage are the principal, and chiefly to the German population. Why cannot this culture be rendered general in the State? Every section of it is

suitable to the growth and development of the grape, and while the labor of raising is so slight, the process of the vintage so simple, and the profits so large, it is a matter of surprise that so few of our American population have turned their attention to this healthy and profitable pursuit.

Ohio stands first in the list of wine growing States, producing in 1850 48,207 gallons.—This great quantity is owing, in all probability to the exertions of Mr. Longworth, who has, with great diligence and expense, applied himself to the cultivation of our native grapes, and obtained from some of them a Hock, that is equal to the best sparkling Rhenish, and a Champagne, that is infinitely superior to the deleterious and adulterated stuff that is drunk here as the produce of the French vintage.

It would be a matter of sincere congratulation if the culture of the grape for wine, could be extensively pursued. It would not only develop one great and almost unknown source of native wealth, but would add to the morals of our people by substituting a pure and generous beverage, in the place of those fiery and poisonous liquors that are crowding our jails with felons, and filling our cemeteries with untimely graves.

Your committee are confident that the inducements held out by a State society would add materially to the development of this great source of pleasure and of future wealth.

Your committee will pass over the other products of husbandry, as swine, hemp, tobacco, the products of the dairy, the loom and the needle, &c., with the simple remark that their production and proper management can and will, no doubt be greatly promoted by the premiums and other inducements offered by State fairs. They are important items in our agricultural system and they can equally be benefitted by the advantages mentioned, in connection with other staples, in a former part of this report.

In conclusion, your committee beg leave to remind the general assembly that as agriculture is the basis of a large part of the revenue, it is but an act of justice that this occupation should receive back whenever it requires it, some small portion of the tax that it pays. While your statute books show charters, and franchises, and money expended freely, for nearly every branch of industry in the State the farmer may search in vain, among the leaves, for any record that gives to his noble vocation, protection, charter, or even encouragement. Farmers emphatically constitute the community, that bear the imposition of taxes without a murmur—that are always ready and among the first to march at the call of their country—that are always striving to develop the vast resources of our soils—and

whose labors support the whole mighty frame work of society. Your committee believe that, when their interests require it, the attention of the general assembly cannot be too prompt in its response to the call—when they ask, there should be no refusal.

Your committee believe that the recommendation here submitted is one that calls loudly on the legislature for interposition. The experiment has been made in other States, and been eminently successful. Why must it fail here? Let the trial be made. If the project fail (and there is no reason why it should,) the bounty will not be misplaced, for it is returned to the same source from which it came. If it succeed we may well congratulate ourselves upon the fact, that our vote has contributed to rear an association that tends to increase the prosperity and revenue of our State, that gives it a high and enviable character, and that scatters abroad over the land the seeds of knowledge, and the elements of public and private wealth.

In consideration of these things, your committee recommend an annual appropriation, from the treasury, of \$1,000 for 4 years, to be expended in premiums for the improvement of the stock and general husbandry of the State; the sum to be disbursed in conformity to a bill herewith submitted.

WM. O. MAUPIN, Chairman.

### American Homes.

The St. Louis Evening News, in noticing the proceedings of the St. Louis Agricultural Society, makes the following remarks about American homes, which we consider not only as very important, but as extremely well-timed.

We are indebted to Charles L. Hunt, Esq., for a copy of the very admirable address put forth in the behalf of the St. Louis County Agricultural, Horticultural, and Mechanical Society, and take great pleasure in laying it before our readers and asking for it an attentive consideration. The address is very logically prepared, and so aptly divided and tersely written that it cannot fail to be read with interest and profit.

What word can we add to the clear and powerful plea in behalf of home improvement therein put forth?

It has often been said that Americans have no homes. They are almost nomadic in their habits—roving from State to State, and pitching their tents like Arabs. Their better affections have no time to cling, like ivy, to ancient houses, churches, castles. Fatherly old oaks and elms hold no sway over their hearts. They have no veneration for Homesteads. Children sell the houses, 'cleared' and improved in the wilderness by a father's hard labor

and trimmed with a mother's spontaneous taste, with as little remorse as they would 'trade' a pig or swap a puppy. How often, too, does it happen that the 'old homes'—the birth places it may be, of the children thus heartlessly bartering them away—contain, in some obscure and neglected corner, the graves wherein their frugal parents, after a life of toil and hardship, have laid down their grey hairs and gone to rest.

What means shall be resorted to, to stay this restless, heartless habit of our people? We know nothing so well calculated therefore, as the awakening of an interest in the homes and home products of the country than by the means of such Societies as the one organized in this county. Make a man proud of his fields, his orchards, his stock, and he will stay with them, cultivate them, nurture them. Make him proud of his garden, his dairy, his poultry yard, and he will learn to enjoy the luxuries of living they afford. And by a happy order of Providence, just in proportion as a man employs himself in quiet, healthful, and rural pursuits, he becomes devoted to that manner of life, and finds his heart yearn more and more for its pure delights.

We expect the most gratifying results from the working of the Society now organized so ably and efficiently in this county. By getting up a wholesome and praiseworthy rivalry among farmers and gardeners, and fruit growers, and amateurs of the city who have homes or are getting them in the country around, we shall expect to see in a few short years, a complete change in the face of affairs. Homes as beautiful, though not as old, as any in 'merrie old England' will dot the whole country, and afford a wealth of luxury and abounding home comforts, of more value to the State than mines of California gold, and of greater benefit to social life and manners than almost any other education the people are likely to receive.

### Making and Saving Manure.

'Composter,' gives in the *Country Gentleman* the following mode of manufacturing horse manure and litter, into good, first quality of manure, remarking that he has practiced it several years with much satisfaction:

In the first place, let me say that my hogs are confined to the pen, and a small yard in the rear of it, nearly the whole year round, (my breeding sows only being allowed to range in the winter.) My horse barn stands adjoining the pen and on one side of the yard. The manure from the horse stable is thrown directly into the hog-yard. The hogs are allowed the liberty of the yard, and so the horse and hog manure, and the litter of both go to-

gether. The yard has been cleared so often, that the earth has been taken out more than a foot deep, and it will hold water like a dish; and the water that falls into the yard, with the urine of the animals, keeps it well saturated most of the time. Occasionally we scatter a few quarts of corn over the yard, and the whole mass will soon be turned up-side down by the industrious pigs; and in this way I can have it turned just when I wish.

The whole is allowed to remain in the yard through the summer, and in the fall I and it all rich and rotten manure. The horse manure which otherwise heats and dries so much, and by evaporation loses half its fertilizing properties, without a great deal of extra labor is bestowed upon it, is now thoroughly mixed with the hog manure, and all improved thereby. By a liberal supply of bedding to both horses and hogs, one may increase this heap to several loads for each animal kept.

When straw is not at hand, a resort to the woods for leaves as bedding, is an excellent substitute, and they are certainly within the reach of all. I have drawn several loads of them this fall, and find them good for bedding. Any one who has not tried it, will be surprised to find how easily and quickly they are obtained.

### Training Steers.

The following mode of transforming the wild and unmanageable steer, into the gentle and well trained ox is both reasonable and instructive. We extract from the *Country Gentleman*:

The first point is to make them tame and gentle. This may be accomplished by feeding them out of the hand, and earthing them daily. They should be approached gently, without yelling at them until they are frightened out of their wits. After having reduced them to a state of perfect docility, a good yoke should be procured, suitable to their size and strength. A small pen is necessary to put on the yoke; approach gently with the yoke, patting and speaking gently to them until you have the yoke on the off steer; then let an assistant drive the other under the yoke. Their tails should be securely fastened to prevent their getting the habit of turning the yoke. They should be yoked in the morning and unyoked at night—in this manner for several days, until they become accustomed to the yoke.

The first thing to teach them is, to stop at the word of command. This may be done by striking them across the face; the blows should be repeated until they stop, and then discontinued; by striking them for every non-observance of the word of command, they will soon learn that by stopping they will avoid it, and

will act accordingly. They may be taught then to 'gee' and 'haw,' by gently pushing them around. Backing may be taught by beginning with an empty cart on a side-hill; then on a level, then with an increasing load until they will back nearly the same load they will draw. They should never be put to a load they cannot readily draw, or drilled by prolonged exercise beyond the period when it becomes irksome. Loud and repeated yelling, or the use of the lash, is both cruel and useless. Clear and intelligible, yet low and gentle words, are all that is necessary to guide a well trained ox. The ox understands a moderate tone more perfectly than a boisterous one, as all sounds become indistinct as they increase. A command should never be given unless enforced. Many bear with bad tricks for a long time, even without an expression intelligible to them—but when patience departs, a thorough storm of blows is poured upon them. This is the way to ruin every beast; a single blow should be given for each offence.

### The Poultry.

At this season of the year, when every preparation should be made for the comfort of all domestic animals, the comforts of the poultry family should receive a very liberal share of attention, inasmuch as there is no stock, that any stockholder can keep that will pay so well for the capital and labor invested as the biped tribes.

To ensure the best returns during the months of the season when they can be made more profitable than in any other, it is necessary, in the first place that they should be provided with dry and warm shelter; in the second, that they should have a constant supply of good nutritive food. If this last is given in quantities to lie by them, no waste will follow, and consequently no additional expense will accrue. We have been in the habit, during the cold season, of keeping a box of grain, where hens, &c., could have access to it any time; and have found to our satisfaction that they can be wintered on a less amount of food in this way than when they are allowed to ramble for it or is doled out to them in handfuls, at seasons of convenience. By keeping corn in a good supply within their reach, we have marketed it at more than a dollar a bushel, when the common price was seventy cents, taking pay in eggs, which in winter always turn to cash at a fair price, and have sold them other grains at an increased rate.

Yet we would by no means confine their living to grain, especially that in a whole or uncooked condition. Meat, the refuse of the table, or from the butchers, may be given to a good advantage. It should, however, be boiled, in order to being more digestible.



Cooked potatoes, given warm, for an occasional change, we have found highly beneficial; also, meal, cooked or boiled in just water enough to give it a consistency.

We always allow lime in good quantities to lie in our hen house. The importance of this in the formation of the shells is fully known; aside from this, its healthfulness as a condiment may be fully inferred from the manner in which they devour it. A neighbor of ours, who is nice in his hen matters, a few years since finished off a room in comfortable style for their winter accommodation, lathing and plastering the sides and overhead. They had scarcely inhabited the tenement six months before the plastering was all devoured. The lime and sand were both probably the cause of this; and had both been placed in abundance within their reach, the wall would no doubt have remained untouched. Ashes or fine earth should also be placed within their reach, that they may follow their wallowing propensities in winter as they so naturally do in summer.

The poultry-house should also be in a quiet, retired place. Noise and the interference of other animals is annoying to all the feathered tribes, especially to those of domestic habits.

Fowls should not be allowed to ramble in winter, especially if the day is cold or stormy and in such days, if they are let out at all, it should be near nightfall when they will be sure to return soon.

In the arrangement of the poultry house, special regard should be paid to saving the manure. This is the true guano, which every farmer may possess, in moderate quantities, to be sure, but none the less valuable.

Its actual value is beginning to be better understood than formerly, but not so well now but that many farmers allow their poultry to roost on fences and trees, where all is lost; while many more, who save it, sell it for a mere pittance, or give it to their more discerning neighbor for cleaning out the hen roost. Now we positively believe that a bushel of hen manure is cheap to a farmer at a shilling, in any currency that may be reckoned where these remarks are read. In proof of it we give the result of some experiments made in its application.

A farmer of our acquaintance pulverised, threshing with a common flail, a quantity of it; after which he added an equal quantity of ashes, and one-fourth as much gypsum. A single handful of this compound was placed in a hill of corn; the result was a heavier crop than where well-rotted stable manure was placed in liberal quantities. The same compound we have found valuable for peppers, tomatoes, vines, and indeed all garden vegetables; it gives them a quick, healthful growth. And this same compound, sown on turnips, r'nes

and other plants infested by insects in the early stage of growth, when the leaves are wot, is sure to rid them of these annoyances. But we have said enough to show its value, and here we leave it for the farmer to carry out its application to such crops and in such ways as he sees best.—*Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

### Suggestion to Farmers.

The following is an extract from the address of Mr. G. F. Stewart, before the Huron County Agricultural Society, at Norwalk, Ohio, at its last meeting. The suggestions contained in it are worthy of the attention of farmers in every place:

Many farmers who are destroying the productiveness of their farms by shallow works, as they find that their crops are diminishing, think only of extending their area by adding new acres of surface, as if they supposed their title deeds only gave them a right to six inches deep of earth. If they will take those deeds, study their meaning, and apply the lessons to their fields, they will soon realize in three-field crops, the fact that the law has given them three farms where they supposed they had but one—in other words, that the subsoil brought up and combined with the top soil and enriched with the atmospheric influences, and those other elements which agricultural science will teach them to apply to their ground, will increase three-fold, the measure of its productiveness. To show to what an extent the fertility of the soil can be increased, I refer to a statement in the last Patent Office Report. In the year 1350, there were nine competitors for the premium corn crop, of Kentucky, each of whom cultivated 10 acres. Their average crop was about 122 bushels per acre. At this time the average crop of wheat per acre in the harvests of Great Britain, on a soil cultivated for centuries, is about double that produced on the virgin soil of Ohio. Why is this? Simply because British farmers are for the most part educated men, and apply the principles of enlightened agriculture to their work. They pay back to the earth what they borrow; they endeavor, by every means in their power to enrich their ground, and in return it enriches them. If our farmers, instead of laboring to double their acres, would endeavor to double their crops, they would find it a vast saving of time and toil, and increase of profits. Many of them never think of digging ten inches into the soil, unless they have dreamed about a crock of gold hid in the earth; but if they would set about the work of digging it in earnest, every man would find his crock of gold without the aid of dreams or divines.

We have a great advantage over the British farmers in the fact that our farmers nearly all, hold the lands which they cultivate, in fee sim

ple, while in England they are chiefly tenants, hiring the land of the nobility, and paying enormous rents to the proprietors, beside heavy taxes to the government. Taxes here are comparatively light, and our farmers are their own landlords. Hence they have been able to pay three-fold wages for labor to those paid in Europe, pay the cost of transportation, and yet undersell the British farmers in their own markets.

From New York Agricultur.

### Potatoes Injurious to Pregnant Animals.

I am induced to give your readers the result of my observation, in the hope that they being forewarned, may avoid the disastrous results which I am about to record.

The feeding of pregnant animals is a part of the farmer's duty, requiring all the judgment and circumspection that he can call to his assistance. As a general rule, the dam during the period of gestation, should be so fed as to keep all the physical organs in healthy play, and the system in high thriving condition. When in this situation, it is a well established fact that the nervous organization is in a most excited state, and susceptible in the highest degree; it is therefore operated upon by almost anything out of the usual course.—For instance, over work or a sudden alarm, is frequently attended with the most unfortunate results. The same also is the fact with a change of food, and the substitution of some kinds is particularly dangerous. To illustrate this, I will relate the misfortune of a neighbor a breeder of French Merino sheep. He laid in a large stock of potatoes, being unable (owing to the drouth in this county) to obtain his usual supply of carrots, ruta bagas, &c. His idea was to feed his cattle and sheep with potatoes, keeping the other roots for his calves and lambs when they should require them. With this intention, his orders were to feed the ewes coming in during November and December with cut potatoes.

The sheep seemed to be doing well on this food, and a few produced their lambs, but it was remarked, that though large and fat, they were quite weak and wanting vitality, requiring much assistance from the shepherd.—This difficulty increased day by day, till the lambs, though still large, were born dead or died immediately after birth.

No cause could be alleged for their mortality. This state of things continued till seven or eight lambs were lost. Our brains were racked to the utmost to account for this trouble, at last, we were forced to the conclusion that the potatoes must be the 'root of all evil.' As that was the only difference in the treatment since last year, when all did well. A change was at once made, and carrots sub-

stituted for the potatoes. Also a little stimulant was recommended. The effect was as favorable as could be desired, and much more than was expected; for after this alteration in feed a few days, the lambs became possessed of their usual vitality.

I mentioned these circumstances to a friend, a physician, who tells me that he has been aware of the pernicious effects of raw potatoes for a long time, and he himself once had experience of it, in the case of his own cow.

My idea is, but it may be a mistaken one, that raw potatoes, though good feed for store or fat cattle, owing to the great quantity of starch and mucilaginous matter, they contain, are too heavy and cold to be well adapted to sustain fetal life; that circulation being rather sluggish requires a warmer and more stimulating food.

The feeding of ruta bagas to ewes about to lamb, though generally considered a most safe food, is not unattended with danger; and in fact, by the best breeders in England, they are fed in limited quantities, or dispensed with altogether at that time. The danger is not generally to the ewe, as I have never heard of a greater loss from this cause than three to five per cent., but I have heard of as much as eighteen or twenty per cent. loss of the lambs. The post mortem examination of the lambs that had thus died, exhibit the stomach and intestines surcharged with water. The disease is known to shepherds, as 'water bellied.'

Again, I knew of a pen of Southdown's taken from the flock and as an experiment, fed upon the sprouts that are rubbed off malt.—These sprouts seemed to be a good as well as economical food; the sheep continued to all appearance, in good thriving condition, and the experiment was thus far most encouraging.

The lambing season coming on, three out of the five ewes died. Not that the lambs were so large or the dams so fat, but that the ewes though in good condition, were in so relaxed a state that they had not muscular power for natural labor. Two ewes in lambing inverted the uterus, and though they had the best attention it was of no avail, the sprouts no doubt having for weeks been acting upon the system, relaxing and reducing it to a very low state.

From what I have written above, it appears that to produce a fine animal, is not a matter of chance. It is not done by promiscuously feeding quantities of good food, or still less by letting your animal take their chance with short commons; for though you may, and probably will have lambs, they will be starvelings, and no feed will ever overcome the first want of substance.

But to produce an animal of any breed that will do credit to the breeder, requires the

closest discrimination—the most careful attention, and the best judgment that can be brought to bear on the subject. In fact, it opens a field for the display of all the practical and scientific knowledge that the most intelligent husbandman can call to his aid.

## II.

To the excellent observations of our correspondent above, we will add that climate or the season of the year also has its effect upon certain articles of food. For instance, had the potatoes been very mealy and of a first rate quality, and fed in September or October, or the last of April or early in May, when there was no frost, we do not think they would have been near so injurious. Pregnant animals, however, should be fed sparingly with raw roots of any kind during frosty weather; and in fact, except to grown swine we are not much in favor of feeding them to animals in any condition during severe winter weather. Grain or meal with good hay, is much preferable.

### Bots in Horses.

The following on the subject of Bots in horses, gives some information, new and interesting to most people. We copy from the *Journal of Agriculture*:

Many years ago, assisted by Dr. Roe, of White Plains, N. Y., we made examination of a horse that appeared to have died of the bots. We found the cuticular coat of the stomach almost entirely covered with them. They were upon the top and upon the bottom, and upon both sides. They worked side by side, like lazy street sweepers; and were in no wise hurried or interrupted in their operations by our observation. Some were lapped over others, as sucking pigs who get the upper row of teats are wont to feed. They ate systematically, and as remarked in the paper quoted below, 'they swept clean' as they progressed, as a silk worm cleans a mulberry leaf. The stomach was alive with these sluggish but persevering pests. But that the horse died of the bots, although there is a reason so to think, we dare not undertake to say; for the weight of authority is against us; nevertheless, we think he did.

We 'exhibited' to our subjects a tempting dose of sweetened milk—in fact we submerged a portion of the stomach in milk and molasses, but the adult bot preferred the tripe, whatever the baby bot might do with the drink. We tried an application of sulphuric acid, (oil of vitriol), to their backs without perceptible effect. We steeped the portion of the stomach in the acid without at all interrupting their meal. This is accounted for by the fact, that the bots are coated with mucus, which defends them against the acid. Finally, we tried a

powerful burning glass; and either worried out by the protracted fight, or unequal to contest with the sun, they gave up the ghost. But this remedy would be somewhat difficult of administration, with a living horse, therefore we do not 'patent' it!

After the bots are full grown and fairly established, and in operation, they are safe from most applications, for this reason, that as many of them must be kept engaged on the upper portion of the stomach, medicine cannot reach them, unless the stomach is kept constantly full of the medical agent, and besides their mouths are so deeply buried in the business before them, that they will not quit it for the most seductive drug.

In view of the whole matter, we come to these conclusions. So long as there exists a sufficiency of mucus in the stomach, the bots will not attack the cuticular coat, and will at the proper time be disengaged, passed out of the stomach with chyme, and evacuated with the dung.

In the commencement of the attack they may be expelled by the remedy recommended, (sweetened milk,) or more easily by green and succulent food. So long as they confine themselves to the mucus, their presence is not dangerous to the life or health of the animal, though they cannot be claimed to be positively essential to his comfort and well being. The act of eating the cuticular coat is not of itself painful to the horse, for the coat is insensible; but the cuticle removed leaves the stomach at least liable to inflammation. At this stage, we do not doubt that fatal effects may follow.

On the whole it appears to us as idle to say that horses do not die of the bots, as to deny that children die of measles or whooping cough, because the cases are rare, where rightly and seasonably treated they do not recover.

### Galls on Horses.

'The merciful man is merciful to his beasts.'

It is much to be regretted that the necessity and the duty of care and kindness to the injured horses, should not be more deeply impressed upon the public mind. We are daily pained to see, upon the breast and shoulders of horses employed upon the canals, the most revolting exhibitions of lacerated flesh, caused by the harness. To subject to service a helpless animal, under such circumstances, is more than cruel,—it is barbarous. A vast proportion of this injury and suffering, we think entirely needless,—that is, it might easily have been greatly mitigated, or wholly avoided. I have twice, within a few years past, published a remedy for galls on horses, and urgently invited attention to it, on the part of those who might be interested; but fear the advice has not been heeded.

When a young horse is first broken to the

harness, or when a horse accustomed to the harness has been lying still for a considerable time, the breast and back will be tender. The use of the collar then, if the weather be warm, will easily scald the part, and to a greater or less degree induce the abrasion. To prevent these results, the parts should be toughened before use, by the application of whisky, saturated with alum.

The breast and back of a colt, or a horse that has lain idle for a while, should be bathed with this wash three or four times a day before applying the harness. It will so toughen the skin as wholly to prevent, or greatly diminish the hazard of galling. And if under any circumstances, a gall upon the horse has unfortunately occurred, the application of this remedy has been found to effect a cure, even under the necessities of continued and constant service. In the use of horses to a great extent, for many years, I have applied no other remedy, and have invariably realized satisfactory results. Every farmer should keep in his stable, a bottle of this mixture, and if his horses are sound, use it occasionally to keep them so, and if injured, use it to effect a cure.—*Wool Grower.*

### Raising White Beans.

The raising of the common *white bean* meets with but little attention among our farmers in the immediate vicinity of Boston. Farther in the interior however, land is less valuable, and light, varied crops are of more consequence to agriculturists, large quantities are annually produced in many sections of the country—and upon light soils they do well.

Mr. Samuel Carpenter, of Battleboro, a subscriber, informs us that he has raised the white bean for some years, upon a sandy soil, and has accomplished two objects worthy of imitation. His beans were sowed on peach orchard grounds. The soil was thin and light, and the beans have produced good crops—while at the same time he has found that the beans have proved a protection to his peach trees against severe drought (answering all the objects of mulching) during the hot months of mid-summer. The foliage of the bean spreads over the surface of the earth, saving the ground from the intense heat, and the ready growth of this plant does not exhaust the soil as must crops do. From a thorough experience in this matter, Mr. C. earnestly recommends the planting of the white bean in young peach orchards where the soil is light and porous.

A correspondent says 'I have seen little notice given to the culture of the white bean, and as some farmers are turning their attention to this crop it may be of advantage to some to know how I manage. I do this work in the last week of May. I prepare my ground by

plowing and dragging smooth; I mark it out in shallow furrows, about two feet apart with a corn plow; I then drop the beans two or three inches apart in the furrow. I use a drag that is wide enough to cover two rows at a time. In this way with two hands, I can plant two acres a day. I find this a better way than to plant in hills. When the beans are about three or four inches high, I go through them with a cultivator; weed and hoe them all. When about ten inches high, I use the corn plow, turning the soil up against the vines to hold them up. This time I use no hoe. By this process, and with a sprinkling of plaster when I hoe them, I raise from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre. The past season I had four acres from which I measured up ninety-one bushels. When I gather and thresh them, I save the vines to feed cattle. I have kept seven head this winter and have fed them but little else. They are all in good order.—*N. E. Cultivator.*

### Culture of Blackberries.

Mr. Lewis H. Spear, of Braintree, Vt., in a communication to the *Flow, Loom & Anvil*, says of this fruit:

'The blackberry is of several species, and a native of this country, growing spontaneously, and often producing abundant crops of superior fruit. The best varieties in perfection, are more wholesome and of a flavor richer than either the strawberry or the raspberry.

There are two varieties which I think superior to all others, the first of which is the "Bush," growing straight and upright, the top of which becomes recumbent and almost free from prickles, and under favorable circumstances attaining a height of from six to ten feet. It has a large white blossom in June, the fruit of a shining black, long, ovate or about one inch in length, and one in circumference, very tender, and of a juicy, sweet, rich flavor. This variety is seldom found.

The second is the "High Bush." This is a very rapid growing blackberry, stem very tall, sometimes ten or twelve feet in height; fruit shining black, very large, oval, conical, often over an inch in diameter, very sweet, juicy, and melting, with an aromatic flavor; the fruit ripening from the first of August until the middle of September.

This fruit in perfection is not excelled by the productions of any climate. It is delicious for the dessert, excellent for pies, puddings, sauce, preserves, wine, &c., and it well supplies the place of the peach and grape.

This most wholesome of all fruits, often relieves bilious and dyspeptic habits, and dysentery has often been cured by a free use of the ripe fruit. I have every reason to believe a free use of it by all classes, instead of unripe fruit and fresh-meat, would do more to



lessen mortality at that season, than all the "Dysentery Cordials," "Anti-cholera" drugs, that all the speculative ingenuity of men ever invented.

**SOIL AND CULTIVATION.**--The blackberry grows freely in a warm, tolerable dry, or rather deep rich soil; it abounds among stones, old logs, natural ledges, and on lands which have been recently burned over, which contain a good supply of alkali.

Land should be kept rich, mellow, and free from grass and weeds. Besides common manure, use leaves, ashes, and vegetable matter.

It is propagated by seeds and offsets from the root.

I would recommend to those who wish to cultivate this fruit, first, to select a suitable spot of ground; second, plow deep and well; third, have your hills from six to eight feet apart, for the convenience of plowing and cultivation. The land once 'set,' they will not need transplanting for a long time.

After this, manuring, plowing, and keeping the bushes properly thinned, is nearly all that is necessary to secure large and abundant crops of the choicest fruit.

One bush often produces a quart of the finest berries; a friend has a bunch covering less than one rod of land, and he assured me he picked twenty-seven quarts in one day. I saw a spot this season which produced over one bushel to the rod, or more than five thousand quarts per acre.

From the Horticulturist.

### The Curculio.

I know of no one subject connected with fruit culture of more importance to us Western people than this. There is no malady or cause existing here that would prevent our having a full crop of that delicious fruit, the plum, almost every year, were it not for this pestiferous insect. Is it possible that we are to have no remedy? Must we fell all our plum, apricot, and nectarine trees, to prevent the increase of this little wretch to such an extent that he will destroy our other fruits, which is now the case to a considerable degree in many locations? I hope this great calamity may, through the ingenuity and skill of some one, be averted by the timely discovery of a remedy that will cost less than the fruit is worth. The shaking of the trees upon sheets, the only sure means of saving the crop yet discovered, with me takes an amount of labor and time fully equal to the value of the crop; so that its discovery may, as far as my experience goes, be considered of no value or utility to community. To save the majority of the fruit on half a dozen trees in my garden, by this means, requires the labor of a hand one hour and a half every morning and evening for a period of six weeks. At ten hours for a day's work, this would

amount to over twelve days, (recollect there are to be no Sundays during this time; if so, your crop is gone;) which, at 75 cents a day, would amount to \$9; saying nothing about boarding a hand for two weeks, which would at least be \$3 more. The trees upon which I made my experiments will not average over one bushel of fruit each. It will be seen, then, that by this process of preserving the fruit, it will cost about \$2 per bushel, which I think is quite as much as it would bring in our market, at least after deducting labor of picking and carrying.

I have tried many of the published experiments beside this, such as chickens, pigs, lime, salt, &c., &c., all of which have entirely failed. Connected, however, with an application of a solution of lime and sulphur to the tops, made with a syringe, during the past season, I made an accidental discovery which I think worthy of note, and which may lead to some beneficial results. I had read communications from several persons who had been successful with the sulphur and lime application. I determined last spring to try it; and as soon as plums were fairly shaped, and before the curculio commenced his destruction, I prepared the solution, went to work vigorously, and gave four applications within ten days, on one tree of *Gen. Hand*, one *White Prune*, one *Caledonian*, one *Knight's Green Drying*, one *Royal Native*, and one *Green Gage*. I covered the tops, leaves and fruit, so completely with the mixture, that at a little distance the trees looked as though they were in one perfect sheet of bloom. For two years previously I had not had a single fruit to ripen on any of these trees. About five days after the first application, I discovered the work of the insect on every tree, all about equally. The depredations increased constantly, although we applied the mixture in greater quantities. After the fourth application I discontinued it, believing that it was doing no good. At this juncture I set my gardener to work at spading up a part of my garden, with directions to spade it deeply, and turn the top earth completely under. It happened that he commenced in that part of my lot where one of the plum trees stood, (the *Green Gage*.) The ground under it, and in all parts of the lot, was deeply spaded and well turned under. There was no spading done under or about the others. After three or four days I discovered that the depredators had discontinued their work upon this tree, while on all the others they appeared, from the havoc they made, to work with a double fury, as though maddened at the attempt to foil them by covering their victims with lime and sulphur. On the *Green Gage* not a plum was incised after the spading, that I could discover. From it was gathered about one bushel of perfect fruit.

That this fruit was saved by turning up the subsoil, or turning under the top soil, I have no doubt; but as to the philosophy of the thing, or the reason of the result produced, I am at loss. It must have been produced, however, by one of two causes; and I will remark here, by way of introduction to one of them, that by syringing the trees a large quantity of the lime and sulphur solution fell upon the ground, so as to produce an incrustation upon the surface to the full extent of the circumference of the branches of the tree. One is, that the composition, or incrustation on the surface, by the turning under was brought into immediate contact with the spongioses, or feeders of the roots, and thence taking to the fruit; that, when dissolved by the sap of the tree and acids of the fruit, its effects were to produce a flavor or taste loathsome\* to the depredator, and thereby prevented his farther annoyance. The other is, that during the season in which the curculio inflicts his mischief, he fixes his habitation permanently under the tree, near the surface of the ground, where he remains during his time of rest, and from which he ascends to the top of the tree, either by his legs or wings, at his proper season for labor; and that by the spading he was turned under the ground so deeply that he could not again make his way to the surface.

I shall continue my experiments next season. I shall try the spading alone, and the turning under and sulphur and lime mixture on the surface of the ground in conjunction.

One inquiry, and I will close for the present. What became of the remedy for the curculio discovered by Wm. Quant, gardener to W. C. Langley, Esq., 3d Avenue, Long Island? (See *Horticulturist*, Vol. 6, pp. 583, 584.) He asserted his 'conviction' his composition was a radical exterminator; that he 'would keep its nature private until practical men and others [meaning, I suppose, the rest of mankind,] interested were satisfied, after which his recipe should be open to the world.' I have waited patiently for its publicity. Should it prove to be what Mr. Quant confidently believed it would, I know of no discovery recently made, connected with pomology, which would be of equal value to this, in many portions of our country. I should be glad to hear what Mr. Quant's success has been during the past season, and whether he has not given satisfaction of the utility of his application, to justify him in making it public.

\*We very much doubt this, as we have found the most loathsome applications to the fruit of no avail in repelling the insect. We are very happy to record such instances of close and careful observation, and trust that experiments will be continued; but we must say that we have very little confidence in any experiments of such a limited nature, because almost every year we see individual trees, escape, as in the case of the Green Gage alluded to, from some cause or other unseen.—Ed.

From the Rural New-Yorker.

### Make Home Pleasant and Happy.

Of course it is the desire of every one who has a home, to have a pleasant and happy one, and as near perfect as may be. I will ask how this can best be done? Now let us look at the matter in its true light. Every family needs a dwelling; but few families, however, have such dwellings as are calculated to make home what they desire. It is a fact that not one house in ten, built even in these days of improvement, is constructed and finished as it should be, in order to have things handy and convenient for in-door operations. Quite too many, when they make up their minds to build a new house, make too headlong a beginning, and often proceed in this manner, till they come to the construction and arrangement of the inside. When they have proceeded thus far with their new building, they find they have been at work without a plan,—or what is about the same thing; with but a more crude one. It is an easy matter to erect the frame work for a house, and enclose it; little planning or head work is needed thus far,—but to arrange inside rooms; so that they may be convenient and handy for 'house-work,' etc., needs a well drawn plan, from some one competent; and no one is more competent to have a voice in the matter than the housekeeper herself. She knows better than any one the size she wants her rooms, and how they ought to be arranged to each other to have them easy of access. It is necessary for the person intending to build, to have his plan drawn with accuracy, and every room laid out with precision, before the carpenter strikes a blow, thus saving alterations as he progresses.

There is nothing (in worldly matters) a person ought to interest himself more about, than the construction, finish, and arrangement of his house. Every husband must be aware how much fretfulness and ill temper is caused by having unhandy rooms, and especially a small and badly constructed kitchen. The kitchen, as every one knows, is the most important room in the house, and where this apartment is pinched, and ill-arranged in regard to its situation to other rooms, it is not at all to be wondered at if she does feel a little fretful at times.

The great desideratum in regard to building is, to have every room in the house so arranged and fitted, as to have a place for everything, and everything in its place. If those who are well able to build expensive houses, would pay more regard to the convenience of the inside, and a little less for show on the outside,—it would be thought full as good economy. I have seen large houses with a beautiful exterior, appearing, to the passer-by, to be model houses without and within. But let him just

take a peep inside the walls; perhaps the parlor and dining room are large, commodious rooms, and everything in excellent order and neatness. Next look into the kitchen and sleeping rooms—the former may not be more than ten by twelve, with cupboard and sink in the same space; the latter, perhaps, seven by nine, with a large bed for the old people, and a truckle bed for the little ones, in this crowded space. Nearly half the houses, I presume, are built and arranged somewhat after this manner. Now what chance is there for health and cheerfulness in a house constructed after this plan.

No man can better lay out his property than in adorning and making things convenient and pleasant around his house and home. Of course it is the desire of every one who has a home, to have that home as comfortable and cheerful as may be for the female part of the household; this done, let us, (those of us who are husbands) see that they have such assistance in their more laborious toils, as they oftentimes actually need.

It is too much the case, especially among us New Englanders, that we are so anxious to add money to our pockets, we sadly neglect that which will add to the solid pleasures of our firesides. This desire to accumulate property to leave for their posterity, causes us to neglect to make such provisions for our home circle as is required of us. As I advance in life these things appear to me differently from what they did when I first commenced fitting for myself a dwelling place. I feel now to say in the words of another:—“Let others spend their money for balls, fashions, etc., but let me spend mine for a neat family homestead; and then let me, year by year, spend no small part of income in adorning and improving it, till, in the decline of life, I shall have a perfect home for myself and family.”

A different state of society would be the result, if we would interest ourselves more for the welfare and happiness of our families, and study to make the fire-side circle what it should be. Then might we have pleasant and agreeable homes—then might we witness our sons and daughters returning with smiles of love and good feeling, to the parental roof—to the home of their youth, that they may make glad the hearts of their endeared and venerable parents.

A. TODD.

Smithfield, R. I. 12th mo. 1852.

**CHINESE INDUSTRY.**—Parrot's building in San Francisco, of one hundred feet front, seventy or eighty feet deep, and four stories high all solid granite, was put up in Canton, block by block, by Chinese workmen; and the blocks being all numbered, the building was then taken down, put aboard ship, brought across the Pacific, and re-erected in San Francisco by the same hands.—[Scientific American.]

## Resolutions.

*Of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, relative to the establishment of Industrial Universities, and for the encouragement of practical and general education among the People—unanimously adopted.*

Whereas, the spirit and progress of this age and country demand the culture of the highest order of intellectual attainment in theoretic and industrial science:—*And whereas*, it is impossible that our commerce and prosperity will continue to increase without calling into requisition all the elements of internal thrift arising from the labors of the farmer, the mechanic, and the manufacturer, by every fostering effort within the reach of the government: *And Whereas*, a system of Industrial Universities, liberally endowed in each State of the Union, co-operative with each other, and with the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, would develop a more liberal and practical education among the people, tend the more to intellectualize the rising generation, and eminently conduce to the virtue, intelligence and true glory of our common country; therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein*, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, to use their best exertions to procure the passage of a law of Congress donating to each State in the Union an amount of public lands not less in value than five hundred thousand dollars, for the liberal endowment of a system of Industrial Universities, one in each State in the Union, to co-operate with each other and with the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, for the more liberal and practical education of our industrial classes and their teachers; a liberal and varied education adapted to the manifold wants of a practical and enterprising people, and a provision for such educational facilities, being in manifest concurrence with intimations of the popular will, it urgently demands the united efforts of our national strength.

*Resolved*, That the Government is hereby authorized to forward a copy of the foregoing resolutions to our Senators and representatives in Congress, and to the executive and Legislature of each of our sister States, inviting them to co-operate with us in this meritorious enterprise.

JOHN REYNOLDS,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

G. KOENER, *Speaker of the Senate.*

J. A. MATTESON, *Gov.*

APPROVED, February 8, 1853.

A true copy: Attest,

ALEXANDER STARNE,

*Secretary of State.*

From New England Cultivator.

### Grand Father's Old Farm,

AND WHAT WAS DONE WITH IT.

Dear Sir:—I was on my way in the cars from Maine to Boston, last week, and found myself upon the seat with a gentlemanly man advanced in years, to whom (as I honor old age,) I endeavored to make myself agreeable, *en route*.

After the interchange of a few commonplace remarks, our conversation turned upon the subject of agriculture—the old and new modes of farming, etc., and I subsequently ascertained that my venerable acquaintance was a most intelligent farmer, who had retired, in his old age, upon a competency. As we dashed along in the cars, he entertained me with the substance of the following narrative; the details of which he assured me had transpired within his own knowledge.

"Speaking of the existing progress and improvements in agriculture," he said, "reminds me of an instance that occurred within my remembrance, which I will relate to you, if you are disposed to hear it." I thanked him, and he proceeded on, nearly as follows:

"Some forty years, or more, ago—a neighbor of mine in C—, a Mr. Smith, occupied an immense tract of land, which he called "a farm." It was about thirty rods in width, and upwards of two miles in length; an old "Indian grant" as it was termed; upon which he had been brought up a "farmer," and where his father and grandfather and great grandfather had lived before him.

"Each generation of the Smiths that had dwelt upon this strip of land, had contrived to "farm it," each in the same "old way," year in and year out, from father to son. The place had never known a dollar's incumbrance, scores of Smiths had been reared upon it, generation after generation came and passed away there, and the same cart-paths, the same dilapidated old walls and fences, the identical sheds and shanties and decayed trees were still visible—almost the same furrow had been turned for a hundred years, and more; when—as had been the custom of the Smith families, on previous occasions, it finally came the turn of the *then* occupant, to resign Gran'ther's old place, to his only son—Ben Smith—now come of thirty.

"For five and forty years, at least, Ben's father had carried on this old farm. In all that long period, as regularly as the year rolled round, so regularly had Mr. Smith plowed up his eight acres, mowed all the grass that Providence would grow for him, pastured his ten sheep, reared his four head of cattle, fattened his three hogs, and wintered as many cows. But this was all.

"True—Mr. Smith had a great farm. He

toiled like a trooper, from day-light till dark. He raised his own pork and corn, (such as it was,) his cattle and fodder, cut from his own forest the wood he burned—and never owed any man a farthing. He contrived, even, to pay his town and county tax, too—without borrowing money! But, he was literally "even with the world"—for, while he owed no one, *no one owed him a dollar*. And so he lived, up to seventy.

"Ben"—said the old man to his son, one evening, as they sat before the winter's fire, "I'm getting old. I've worked pooty hard, here, for a good many years, and I've concluded to give up. It's your turn now."

"My turn, for what?" asked Ben.

"To take charge of the old farm, Ben.—Your'e young, and stout and healthy. I'm going to give up the homestead to you; and if you continue to labor constantly as I've done, and as your gran'ther did, afore us—you can get a good livin' off on't, as *we* have done.—We can't take nothin' out of this world with us, Ben. Naked we came into it, and so we must go out on't! But the old place is free from encumbrance, there never was a dollar mortgage on it, and I hope there never will be. I shall give you the farm—free and clear—to-morrow."

Ben slept on this; and next day he was master of a "farm," thirty rods wide, and two and a half miles long!

"I shall take the place, father," he said, "and carry it on; but not as you and grandfather and his father did."

And though the old gentleman shook his head, and looked earnestly over the bridge of his "speces" at his son, Ben was as good as his word; and forthwith he went to work in earnest.

"Spring came. Ben went into the old eight-acre field and plowed up one half of it. Upon this he had previously deposited the whole of the season's manure, that hitherto for years had been sparsely spread upon double the surface. He harrowed these four acres, and planted them carefully. Hoeing-time came, and Ben had only one half the space to go over. Though the corn and potatoes looked finely, and the beets, the cabbages, and the carrots grew marvellously, the good old man was crusty, and declared "it wouldn't do"—that "there wouldn't be roots enough." But Ben went right along, in his own way.

"At the second hoeing, Ben went into his four acres—but *not* with the hand hoe! He had "got some kind of a jimerack (as the old man termed it,) hitched to the old mare's heels, and instead of hoein' his potatoes 'man-fashion,' he'd begun with his *improvements*; but that *cultivator*, as Ben called it, wouldn't work, no how!"

Ben continued the use of the cultivator,



however, the old gentleman continued to grumble, and the corn and potatoes continued to flourish.

Ben Smith had gone over to a neighboring town early in the spring, and run in debt—(Ben was the first Smith that ever did this thing!) for two hundred bushels of “nasty ashes,” which he had tagged the cattle to draw to the farm, and with which he “top-dressed” the old meadow. Here was an innovation, to be sure! And he had subscribed for an agricultural weekly, too; what with his jimmerack of a “cultivator,” his ashes and his “book-farmin’,” the old man was nearly crazed. It would never do, to go on at this rate, said the old gentleman.

But the four acres of corn and potatoes and vegetables still grew finely. Never had the Smiths seen *such* corn, such potatoes, and carrots. The grass came up thick and strong and thrifty—and harvest time came round at last.

The cattle had plenty of good feed—and they were fat and sleek; the pigs were fat, the poultry was fat, the old horse was fat, and Ben grew fat and jolly, as he garnered his high corn, his big potatoes, his generous sized beets, and his great bright yellow carrots.—Ben had found time, during his evenings, to read his agricultural paper, and now he finally took in his second crop—his bouncing turnips and his blushing buckwheat. Who ever heard (before this) of a *second* crop on the old Smith farm? Nobody, to be sure! But the old gentleman shook his head, and was sorry, in his old age, to see his son thus “run to riot” in his “book-larmin’.”

Winter came. The good old father entered the barn. It was *crammed* with hay, and corn stalks and wheat and rye. The granary was loaded with corn, and Ben, who had been carefully taught to shell the cobs across the edge of a shovel—now stood beside another stupid “mersheen,” throwing in a bushel of ears at the top, while the big golden kernels rushed in a constant shower from the bottom! Ben Smith had “squandered” six dollars (in cash) upon a corn-sheller! Ah—“what was the silly boy coming to,” exclaimed his venerable progenitor, as he sighed and turned to the barn again.

The old man examined the harvesting.—There was more hay in the mows than ever before! The corn had turned out grandly! There was everything in profusion—and only half the eight acres had been tilled! Ben pointed to this gratifying result—and his father only shook his head, and said—“Ben, you have been lucky; *we’ve had a remarkable season*. Things have grown finely. A very *for’ard* season, Ben, very!”

Ben Smith junior only smiled at this. He continued to read his paper, subscribed for

another! paid for both (ah! *what* extravagance!) and winter passed glibly away.

He killed off the old razer-backed grunters that had been bred in-and-in upon the ancient farm from time immemorial, and bought six improved Suffolks, instead of the three alligators that had previously been annually tolerated on the Smith place.

The superannuated cows “with the crumpled horns” were turned into beef, and a brace of shining North Devons supplied their places. A sub-soil plow found its way into the yard, one morning early in the spring, and a “new-fangled” harrow followed this. Then came a patent churn, then a capital straw-cutter, then more “nasty ashes,” then a seed-drill—and “there was no end,” (said Ben senior,) “to the infernal masheens that Ben junior cluttered up the place with!”

Ben had been no idler, mean time. He had drawn into the cow yard two hundred loads of peat and pond-muck, in the previous fall. He got plaster and crushed bones and mixed with it, and when February came it was heaped out generously upon the four acres again. Everything went on swimmingly, and at haying-time the “cap sheaf” of machinery arrived!

“What on earth is *that*?” asked the old gentleman, as Ben put his team before his new horse-rake. Ben laughed outright, and asked his respected dad why he didn’t read the papers! But his father said he “had no occasion—he knew enough!”

Again the old barns creaked under their generous harvest of hay, and grain, and vegetables, and again the old man looked on and sighed—and declared that “the season had been remarkable—very!”

Ben hadn’t room to stow away two thirds of his year’s produce! But his hay was excellent, his potatoes were noble ones, his carrots and beets and onions were splendid, he had surplus ruta bagas by the cord, and turnips, and squashes and cabbages, by the ton—for which he readily found a good market, seven miles distant. Nobody believed it, (at first) but all these fine products really came from the old Smith farm.

When the snow and sleet rattled around the ancient mansion, that winter, Ben owed no man a dollar, his barns, and bins and cellars were well filled, and he had three hundred dollars in clean cash, on hand! Here was a fortune.

“Verily, Ben,” said his parent, “you have been *lucky*, and the seasons have been favorable, *very*!”

The elder Smith has been gathered to his fathers. Benjamin Smith Junior, Esquire, is now a man of solid substance, a justice of the peace, and a farmer of forty years in good standing. He knows the difference between

partial and thorough cultivation; he can tell you about the benefits of sub-soil plowing and a shallow furrow; he can tell you whether and wherefore a piece of Suffolk pork, or of Devon beef is preferable to that of the grey-hound hog or the shingle backed ox; he knows how to use the horse-rake and the potato-dropper; he will now inform you about the advantages to be derived from irrigation, from draining, from the use of phosphate of lime and the like; he will show you on his farm big hay stacks, generous squashes, huge potatoes, twelve-rowed corn, fat hogs, improved poultry, sleek velvety cattle, and all the "jimeracks" of modern agricultural progress—and you will now find in a snug corner of Ben's ample "keeping-room" at the old Smith homestead, the choicest agricultural library in the State; while he is a constant reader and paying subscriber to all the leading "book-farm" publications in the country.

No one that knew the old Smith farm five and twenty years ago, would recognise it now. Squire Ben is worth a pretty fortune, has a boxom wife and half a dozen children, and though a little corpulent, (for he will "live well,") he is as lively and jolly and thrifty a book farmer as you or I would wish to meet with.

"I beg your pardon," concluded my travel-friend, at this point, "but here we are!"—and the train halted in the Boston Depot.

### Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

The accompanying letter from Mr. Ernst, was read at the last meeting of the Society, and being deemed of sufficient importance to the Agricultural community, it was

Ordered, That the letter with accompanying note from Mr. Teschemacher, be published in the Daily Evening Transcript.

SPRING GARDEN, Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 11th, 1853.  
My Dear Sir: I herewith send you for distribution amongst the members of the M. H. Society, a small parcel of peas.

The growth of the plant is peculiar, being of an upright and stiff form, somewhat branching—the leaves are large, light green, and downy beneath—the blossom is a small lilac-color—seed pods numerous, small and woolly; growing in clusters over the entire plant, proving very productive.

Its habit of growth is such as to fit it to withstand severe storms; and, should it prove valuable as food for cattle, it must commend itself to the agricultural community in field culture.

In its cultivation it evidently requires room, to enable the plant a full development for branching. Its bearing properties are immense.

Accompanying the seeds I send a plant, to show its habit of growth and bearing properties.

Its origin is said to have been Japan. It was introduced into this country some two years since

by the agency of one of those calamities which sometimes result in benefit to mankind.

An American ship encountered a Japan vessel in distress, and the crew were carried to San Francisco, Cal. Amongst the stores which were transferred was the "Japan pea," a few of which found their way into the hands of Dr. Edwards, of Alton, Ill. He handed them over to Mr. J. H. Ladd, a distinguished horticulturist, who presented the produce to our society. Those now sent you were grown in my grounds—having fully matured in our climate. Your climate may prove too severe.

I have sent small packages of seed to kindred associations, with the request that they be placed in careful hands.

It is possible that it may not be anything new with you. I would be thankful for any information you may possess in reference to it.

Very respectfully, A. H. ERNST.

The plant and seeds were submitted to the inspection of the Society's distinguished botanist and vegetable physiologist, J. E. Teschemacher Esq., and in return received the following note:

MY DEAR SIR: The plant alluded to by Mr. Ernst, is *Cajanus bicolor*, a native of the East Indies, Amboyna, Japan, &c.; flower small, interior yellow, vexillum purple, erect shrub, pubescent, nearest in alliance to *Lupinus*. The seeds are good to eat, and when young, very delicate. On soaking the round seeds for an hour in moderately hot water, they take exactly the form and appearance of the common white bean, become quite tender, and have a pure and delicious nutty and oily flavor. The whole plant with the seed is excellent for fattening hogs and cattle.

There is one other species, *Cajanus flavus*, common in South America and the West Indies, where it is sometimes used for a fence to sugar plantations. In Jamaica this species is much used for feeding pigeons, and is there called the Pigeon-pea. In Martinique the seed is much esteemed for the table.

Being a tropical plant, it would hardly stand our winter. Yet, from the observations of Mr. Ernst, it is not improbable that our climate might admit of annual harvest of the seed, which seem to be so abundantly produced as to make an experiment highly interesting.

Most truly yours, J. E. TESCHEMACHER.  
BOSTON, 19th Jan., 1853.

P.S. These particulars I furnished to Hon. M. P. Wilder a week ago, imagining they would be laid before the Society.

To DR. EBEN WIGHT,  
Cor. Sec. Mass. Hort. Society.

**APPLES.**—Don't keep them warm.—A writer in the Germantown Telegraph, says he placed some apples in open casks in his cellar, which half rotted in a few weeks, while others on a loft floor, where the fair circulated freely through the siding remained almost perfectly sound. Apples buried in a hay mow, kept remarkably well. A cool dry place is what is required to preserve apples.—[N. Y. Agricultor.

# The Valley Farmer.

ST. LOUIS, MO., MARCH, 1853.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

Editor's office and Printing office, in Old Post Office Building, north side of Chesnut street, between Third and Fourth streets, entrance on Old Post Office Alley.

## The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.
  2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
  3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled the bill and ordered the paper discontinued.
  4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction they are held responsible.
  5. The Courts have decided that refusing to take a paper from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled-for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.
- Subscribers will therefore understand—
1. That their papers will be continued after the expiration of the time for which they have paid unless otherwise ordered.
  2. That no paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid up to the time at which the notice is given, unless we are satisfied that the subscriber is worthless.
  3. That when the paper, through the fault of a subscriber, has been suffered to overrun the time, the just and most convenient way is to remit one dollar for another year with directions to discontinue at the end of that time.

**CORRECTION.**—Mr. G. H. B. of Danville, is very angry with us, and justly enough too, for stating that he was in our debt two dollars; as he avers that he paid to a man named A. Henry for his paper up to Oct. 1852. This man Henry was either a very forgetful fellow or an unmitigated scamp, for he assured us that Mr. B. had not paid, and on that ground we wrote what we did. We are sorry for it, as we have no idea that Mr. B. would refuse or neglect to pay anything which he justly owes.

**GOLD DOLLARS.**—In several instances recently gold dollars have been lost out of letters sent us in payment of subscriptions to the Valley Farmer. In most instances these coins appear to have been pressed into a wet wafer attached to the sheet. As soon as the wafer dries it loses its hold on the coin, which escapes from the letter and is lost in the mail bags or in the post office. The proper way is either to envelope the money in a piece of paper and wafer that to the letter, or lay the dollar on the letter—inside—and cover it all over with sealing wax. In either case it will come safe.

**GIVING CREDIT.**—Our brother of the N. E. Cultivator says we are 'brick.' We think he must have had a 'brick' in his hat, when he wrote that article, for in the first place we never asked him nor any other editor of an agricultural paper to notice us. All such notices have been voluntary on the part of our cotemporaries: and in the next place, there was not an article copied into the January number of the Farmer from his paper without credit. There were several short paragraphs published and perhaps one or two longer articles without credits: but they were taken from among the selected matter of our exchanges and we knew not who was entitled to the credit. We invariably give credit for every thing we publish, when we know who is entitled to it. Can Brother Burnham say as much?

**TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—A good move.—Mr. John Slater, of Ill. informs us that they have found in that neighborhood a Township Agricultural Society, one of the terms of membership of which is that each member shall be a subscriber to some Agricultural Newspaper. As the fruits of their beginning he sends us a very respectable list of names as subscribers to the Valley Farmer. This is a good move, and we should be glad to hear more about the Society.

## Extracts from Correspondence,

WITH ANSWERS WHEN NEEDED.

W. N. P. Crittenden, 'Your paper will benefit any farmer twenty dollars a year, if he will work to it; yes fifty.'

S. B. Montrose Io. 'Should be glad for latest and best mode of planting, cultivating &c., the Osage Orange for hedge.'

G. W. D. New Madrid, Mo. 'I am highly interested in the growth of the Osage Orange, and read all you say in your paper, and then wish to see more about it.'

[We have at various times particularly in our January, February and March numbers of last year given directions about the planting and cultivation of the Osage Orange. We have also in the January number for the present year some interesting articles. We want to hear more from Farmers who have experimented with it.]

S. B. Montrose, Io. 'In procuring seed potatoes—which is most advantageous to bring them from the north or south? or is it as well to procure them in them in the same latitude?'

[If there is any difference we should say that seed taken south of where raised would do best. We know that all kinds of trees do best thus re-

moved and we presume the same laws would hold good in potatoes. We have conversed with some cultivators of potatoes in this vicinity who tell us that they prefer the seed grown at home to any brought from abroad. Or rather the potato which they find does best is that raised here from seed brought from the north. One years acclimation appearing to improve its quality and productiveness.]

G. H. Ewing III. 'The Valley Farmer is too valuable a paper for us to loose, if we do not disagree too much about payment. I expect to be a standing subscriber as long as I live, and you continue to make it as valuable as heretofore. I consider it would profit every farmer more than ten times its cost.'

[Your statement is all correct.]

A. P. P. Liberty, 'The Valley Farmer is just such a paper as every farmer in the great valley of the west should read. The department conducted by Mrs. Abbott is more than worth the subscription to every housewife. The Horticulturists would be well paid for his dollar, and I will venture to say that no one who will read 'The Valley Farmer' for 1853 will regret so doing, nor will they be willing to admit their time or money was misspent. But the time is already come when an agricultural periodical is duly appreciated by our farming community. The present existence of your paper is a substantial evidence of it.'

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—This Society is fast growing in efficiency. The Board of managers hold a meeting on the 3d inst., to make arrangements and propose work for the quarterly meeting of the Society—the first Monday of April. We understand at that meeting an address may be expected from Hon. E. Bates, a fact which we doubt not will call out a large attendance of the farmers of the country. No person who feels any interest in the progress of agricultural improvement should delay to enroll himself a member. The Society will hold a fair in October of the present year, and we are confident it will be such an one as the people of St. Louis county will be proud of.

**SEEDS AND IMPLEMENTS.**—Now is the season for Farm and Garden Seeds, and Agricultural implements, and we can assure our country friend

that they can find a full supply at the Warehouses and seed stores in St. Louis. We refer our readers to our Advertising Department for full particulars. All the cheap traders advertise with us.

**FURNITURE.**—We would invite our friends to notice the advertisement of W. M. Harlow & Co., on our first page of Advertising Department. We can speak from experience of the excellence of their furniture, having had some of it in use for more than a year. One circumstance which should commend their wares to the patronage of the public (in addition to cheapness and excellence) is that they are manufacturing a large portion of their stock here. Encourage home manufactures.

**STOCK RAISING.**—During the last month, says the Glasgow, (Mo.) Banner, we have spent the most of our time traveling in this county and Randolph, and have made some investigation as to the course the industry of the country has taken. We find a very general disposition on the part of the farmers to abandon the culture of tobacco, and devote themselves to stock raising. They say they cannot produce tobacco for the present price while labor is so enormously high. Besides, the prices of this staple fluctuate to an extent that must, in many cases, prove ruinous to growers. A farmer may this year get \$4 to \$6 per 100 for tobacco, and can afford to give \$150 to \$200 per year for hands, while next year he will be compelled to pay the same price and will not perhaps receive more than \$1 50 per 100 lbs for tobacco. The enterprise of the country will not follow a channel so uncertain while others, more safe and remunerative, are open to it.

Our farmers are making their arrangements for embarking in the rearing of cattle, horses, mules, hogs, &c. It requires no keen foresight to see that for years the supply will not equal the demand, and that those who pay most attention to this department of industry will receive the best compensation for their labor and capital. A further consideration which we have frequently heard mentioned by farmers is, that the growth of tobacco exhausts the soil too much; that the capacity of their land for producing is constantly diminishing by its cultivation, whereas, by rearing stock, they can increase the productiveness of their land to its full capability, and keep it uniformly in a high state of cultivation.

Missouri has advantages for the successful production of stock that very few countries possess. The great abundance of natural pasturage during summer, and the facility of producing the grasses and grains necessary for



their sustenance during winter, seem to invite the attention of our farmers to this branch of industry. They have now a market unequalled for stock of every description and age.

**THE TRIP OF THE ERICSSON.**—Washington, Feb. 22, 1853.—The caloric ship Ericsson arrived at Alexandria yesterday afternoon from the mouth of the Potomac, where she had laid at anchor for 27 hours, during the late snow and thick weather.

Capt. Lowber weighed anchor at half past 9 o'clock last Wednesday morning, at Sandy Hook, and in pursuance of instructions, stood to the Eastward in the face of a strong gale and heavy sea. He kept his course for 80 miles, when the wind shifted to the Northwest. He then stood in shore again in the face of the gale. During these two gales the ship stood the test nobly, and though she pitched her bowsprit under water, with her lee guard immersed, her engines performed with the utmost regularity, the wheels making 6 1-4 turns a minute with entire uniformity. Not the slightest motion was perceptible in the frame work and bracing of the engines.)

After the ship and the engines were thus fully tested, Capt Lowber shaped his course from the Chesapeake, and in going up the bay against a gale from the N. N. E., encountered a heavy snow storm. On approaching the mouth of the Potomac, the weather became so thick that the pilot declined to go farther, and the ship came to anchor at 10 o'clock this morning.

The engines had then been in operation 73 hours, without being stopped for a moment, or requiring any adjustment, only one fireman having been on duty at a time during the whole trip. The consumption of fuel was under five tons in 14 hours.

Capt. Sands. of the U. S. Navy, who was on board to witness the performance, is delighted with the result, and says that he would willingly go to Australia in her. Thus the great principle of the new motor is a demonstrated reality.

**HOWELL'S FERRY.**—We learn that a company of gentlemen of this city have recently purchased the Howell Ferry at the termination of the Central Plank Road, leading from this city to the Missouri river. An excellent steam ferry boat is owned by the company and is used at that point. A store house is shortly to be erected and it will be followed soon by the erection of a tavern for the accommodation of travelers, also at the landing. The company also contemplate planking the road connecting the ferry landing with the point of intersection of the Salt river and Boon's Lick roads. By the Howell Ferry route the distance from this intersection to St. Louis is five miles

less than by any other, and it bids fair to become the most popular with travelers.—*Int.*

### Scraps from the Papers.

**Chloroform** is being used to remove bees from the honey comb. The hive is placed above a chamber, having a glass window at one side, and a small hole pierced at the other. The chloroform is put in a small bottle having two tubes through its cork, only one of which is allowed to come into immediate contact with the chloroform. The tube which does come into immediate contact with the chloroform is inserted into a small hole in the side of the box, and by blowing into the other chamber is soon filled with the gas, and they tumble out in a box below.—[Scientific American.

Quite likely: but then what for? Is there any necessity for killing the bees at all? and if there be, is chloroform any better than the old method? Is change always improvement?

The Peach, originally, was a poisonous almond. Its fleshy parts were then used to poison arrows, and it was for this purpose introduced into Persia, the transplanting and cultivation, however not only removed its poisonous qualities, but produced the delicious fruit we now enjoy.—[Granite Farmer.

All nonsense! We believe that just as good peaches grew in the Garden of Eden, as have been produced by the most successful cultivator since. That the peach and other fruits may have degenerated by neglect so as to become poisonous, is quite likely, but to suppose that man can improve any fruit beyond its original, primary condition is absurd.

### TO DETERMINE THE SEX OF EGGS.

Hold the egg up to a strong candle light and a vacant space will be observed at the large end. If this vacant spot be in the center of the end, it will produce a male bird; if at one side of the center, a female bird. So say the books.—[Granite Farmer.

A curious chap who sometimes strolls into our office told us the other day that he had read sometime ago in the Valley Farmer that if you wished to distinguish the sex of eggs, to take for males the long ones and for females the short plump ones. He did so and set a hen with 12 short plump eggs and one long slim egg; the result was that the hen hatched 12 females and one male.

**CURE FOR ERSYPELAS.**—The editor of the 'Salem Observer' gives a public cure for this disorder, from which he has been a great sufferer. He says:—'A simple poultice made of cranberries, pounded fine, and applied in a raw state, has proved in my case, and a number also in this vicinity, a certain remedy.' In this case the poultice was applied on going to bed, and the next morning, to his surprise he found the inflam-

mation nearly gone; and in two days he was as well as ever.—[Scientific American.]

**GRAPE VINES.**—The most suitable soils for the culture of the grape, is a deep, rich, and moderately moist loam. Trenching, or stirring the soil to the depth of two feet, with an application of good, well rooted compost, is a suitable preparation where large plantations are to be formed. Old, well rotted manure, forest scrapings, leaves, rotten wood and house ashes, make the best compost. It should be thoroughly worked in and mixed with the surface soil to the depth of six inches, and the surface carefully smoothed and rolled. So says one of our correspondents.—[Germantown Tel.]

**TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.**—The roots, while out of the ground, should be kept moist, and they should never, for a moment even, become dried during the process of transplanting. Hence a rainy day is recommended in all cases, and especially where the roots are denuded.

**A VALUABLE INVENTION.**—Mr. Wm. S. Denman, a citizen of Westwood, Woodford county is the inventor of a machine a patent for which will be obtained without delay that is destined to be of incalculable benefit to the farmer. It is called a Seed Sower and Prairie Breaker. It successfully accomplishes the double operation of sowing small grains and breaking prairie. With this machine, the farmer can with three horses, sow the seed and break three acres of prairie per day. The sod is thoroughly cut up into narrow strips and to any depth required. The operation can be performed in the spring, and oats spring wheat and other small grain, or in the fall or otherwise, as the seed sowing apparatus can be detached. The machine can be made suitable for two, three or four horses, and will be sold at prices ranging from \$30 to \$40.

This invention will be hailed with pleasure, by all who are about making new farms on our prairies. By the use of it the price of prairie breaking is reduced to 75 cents per acre, to say nothing about sowing grain at the same time.—[Peoria Republican.]

**EXPERIMENTS ON SILK WORMS.**—By experiments that have been lately made, it appears that the natural silk from the silk worms can be obtained colored as desired by administering colored articles of food to silk worms just before they begin spinning their cocoons. The first experiments were conducted with indigo, which was mixed in certain portions with the mulberry leaves, serving the worms for food. The result of treatment was successful; blue cocoons were obtained. Small portions of bignonia china having been added to the mulberry leaves, the silk-worms consumed the mixture and produced red colored silk.—[Scientific American.]

**AGRICULTURE IN OREGON.**—The Oregon papers are calling public attention to the peculiar grain growing qualities of the soil of that Territory. The 'Columbian' says there is no country in the world in which wheat arrives at a greater degree of perfection than in Oregon, and certainly none in which a greater yield per

acre is obtained, or a more lucrative or desirable market for rewarding the producer, with as little labor.

**PROFITABLE HEN.**—There is a hen in the possession of a farmer, not far from West Chester, which hatched and raised last summer three broods of chickens, two of fifteen each and one of twelve—making in all 42 chickens. The most of those have been, and the remainder will be sold at an average of 62 1-2 cents per pair—31 pairs—\$13 12 1-2. And yet, strange as it may seem, this was not an imported fowl with a large name; but a common dung-hill chicken!—[New York Agriculturist.]

**WOOL.**—The fact that fine woolled sheep do not deteriorate in this country, has been fully proved by the careful examinations of Peter A. Brown, Esq., of Philadelphia, a gentleman who has devoted years to the investigation of the subject of producing fine wool in abundance in this country. He says: Spanish sheep, yielding naturally wool hairs 2,000 to the inch, carried to England degenerated to 1,000 to the inch, and brought to the United States recovered to 2,100, or finer than the original. The fact being once established that our climate and soil produce finer wool than other countries, will give to our manufacturers inevitably the superiority in cloths, if the manufacturer is allied in his interest to the grower.—[N. Y. Agriculturist.]

**RANDOLPH Co. (ILL.) AG. SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting of the Randolph County Agricultural Society, for electing officers and other business, took place on the 14th inst., when the following were elected: James Crawford, President; Oliver Bannister, Vice president; William Leggat, Treasurer; and William Addison Secretary; Joseph J. Swanwick, Perry county; William Phillips, Chester; Alexander Cuthbertson, Plum Creek Prairie; and J. B. Anderson, south of Eden, were corresponding Secretaries. The Committee of management for 1853 are: Blair Strahan, Samuel Boyd, Jr., W. R. Brown, James Craig, and William Robertson; with the other officers who are ex-officio members of committee.

It was moved and unanimously agreed to that the third article of the constitution be amended so that the initiation fee or entry money of members, for persons entering after the autumn Exhibition and on or before the annual meeting in January, pay, as formerly, twenty-five cents; between the January and before the April meeting fifty cents and after the July meeting, until the Exhibition or October meeting, one dollar. All members pay, in addition fifteen cents at each quarterly meeting or sixty cents per annum. Failing to pay for one year they cease to be members.

It was also resolved that all the moneys collected by the July meeting of each year be expended in prizes or other necessary expenditures at the fall exhibition.

## Valuable Stock.

Mr. Lewis G. Morris of Fordham, Westchester Co. N. Y., has of late imported some fine stock, of which Sanford Howard, Esq., editor of the Boston Cultivator, writes as follows. Mr. Howard is an entirely competent judge of all that relates to stock and his testimony may be implicitly relied on. As our farmers have now a greatly awakened interest in these matters, they will doubtless be gratified with the statements.—*Prairie Farmer*.

Having examined the fine animals lately imported by Lewis G. Morris, Esq., Fordham, Westchester county, N. Y., we take this opportunity of submitting a few facts in regard to them, which may interest, as well as benefit the public.

Mr. Morris has been for some years engaged in breeding domestic animals of various kinds, and, as many of our readers know, has been a successful competitor for prizes at the shows of the New York State Agricultural Society and the American Institute. He has for several years had annual sales of his stock, by auction. These meetings, usually held in June, have formed the occasion of much pleasant social intercourse among the leading stock-breeders and farmers of the country.—Mr. Morris has been so much encouraged by the attention which has been given to his annual sales, that he has been induced to make several trips to Europe for the purpose of obtaining the choicest animals, to keep up and improve the quality of his own stock. The foreign animals have been selected under his own eye, in connection with the personal examination and advice of Mr. Strafford, editor of the Short-horn Herd-Book, Mr. Davy, editor of the Devon Herd-Book, and others. No expense has been spared to obtain the very best specimens of the respective breeds which could be bought, and the different sections of the country will be greatly benefitted by the introduction of these animals.

The following list comprises the animals of the last importation:

**SHORT-HORNS.**—*Bulls*: 'Marquis of Carrabas,' roan, calved Jan. 16, 1851. Bred by and purchased of F. H. Fawkes, Esq., Farnly Hall, Otley, Yorkshire.

'Romeo,' roan, calved April 1850. Bred by and purchased of the Marquis of Exeter. The latter selected for N. J. Becar, Esq., Long Island.

*Heifers*: 'Bloom,' red roan, calved January 1850. Bred by Mr. Fowle, North Allerton, Yorkshire; purchased of J. S. Tanqueray, Esq., Brent Lodge, Hendon, Middlesex.

'Romelia,' roan, calved 1851. Purchased of J. S. Tanqueray.

'Lady Booth,' calved Dec. 1850. Bred by J. Emerson, Eryholme, purchased of J. S. Tanqueray. The latter selected for Mr. Becar.

**DEVONS.**—*Bull*: 'Rodney,' alias 'Frank Quartly,' calved March 1851. Bred by and purchased of Mr. John Quartly, South Molton, North Devon; sire, 'Earl of Exeter' (38) dam, 'Curly' (96).

*Cows*: 'Birthday' (38.) Bred by and purchased of J. A. Thomas, Esq., So. Molton, North Devon.

'Princess' (380.) Bred by and purchased of James Quartly, Esq., South Molton, North Devon.

The figures refer to the numbers of the animals as registered in the Devon Herd-Book. None of the Short-horns except 'Marquis of Carrabas' are yet registered in the Herd-Book, their owners having omitted to send their pedigrees to Mr. Strafford, the editor, previous to Mr. Morris's purchase; but they will be inserted in the next volume. Both Short-horns and Devons are very fine specimens of their breeds. The Devon cow 'Birthday' received several prizes in England, and is one of the most beautiful animals we have ever seen.—Her breeder, Mr. Thomas, was a very successful competitor at the late show of the Smithfield Club. The other cow and the bull are also very fine—the latter, especially, very complete in form, and of good size and firm constitution.

**SWINE.**—Mr. Morris also brought out an addition to his stock of Essex, Suffolk and Berkshire swine. The Essex were bred by and purchased of W. Fisher Hobbs, Esq., Boxted Lodge, near Colchester. The boar is of the best of this gentleman's noted stock, and is altogether a most perfect specimen of his species. The figure of an Essex hog, in this paper of December 18, might be taken for his portrait, though not doing him full justice in every point. The Suffolk boar, an excellent animal, was bred by and purchased of Lord Wenlock Yorkshire. The Berkshires were purchased of Mr. Wilson, bailiff to Sir R. G. Throckmorton, Berkshire.

**SHEEP.**—Mr. Morris brought out for himself and Mr. Becar, two South-Down rams and six ewes, bred by and purchased of the celebrated breeder, Mr. J. Webb, Babraham, near Cambridge. He had before, quite a flock of South Down as purchased of Mr. Webb.

In addition to the above stock, Mr. Morris selected and brought out for Mr. Corning of Albany, three Herefords—a bull and two heifers, of which we have spoken before. We saw them a few days since, and were pleased to see that they, as well as Mr. C's other fine stock of this breed, were doing well.

## THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Conducted by

Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

## Woman's Mission.

We consider Woman's Mission far too high and sacred to believe it right for her to become a peddling lecturer on any or every science, whether real or imaginary, or roaming preachers, whether they are Millerites, Perfectionites, Swedenborgians, or Spirit Rapping lecturers or Mediums. We consider *Home* to be her kingdom, and if her reign is peace and love, her influence will be boundless, and as much as any believer in the bible could desire. It is contrary to the whole spirit of Divine Revelation for women to leave their homes and all that ought to be dear to them, to travel about preaching or lecturing to gain masculine fame or notoriety. The *notoriety*, that of *shame*. No real woman, no matter how high may be her intellect—no matter what may be her talents—will throw away her natural modesty and shamefacedness to appear in the public assembly, to cause her voice to be heard on high. Her home duties, others cannot perform. If she refuses to provide for her home, she has 'denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel!' yet these *lecturers* and *preachers* pretend to believe the bible, when their very appearance in public as teachers gives falsehood to their pretensions. Who is to perform home duties when the wife and mother is off on a lecturing expedition? These are left to minds wholly unfit and incapacitated to perform them. When women take upon them public affairs they come in competition with the other sex, when God designed them to be co-workers and fellow laborers, each in their proper sphere.

Women cannot take upon herself the occupations, business and political duties of man without going out of her own sphere, and the station God has designed her to fill. Neither can man fill the station of woman, being totally unfit for these high and holy duties, where love and self-sacrifice are the ruling powers. Woman is not fitted by nature to take upon her, the works, business, and pursuits of man; thus showing that God has de-

signed her for quite a different sphere. Her voice, her small and delicate frame, show that she was not designed to be a public speaker; why wish to set aside the laws of God, which has given to man *power* and to woman *influence* to second the plans of Almighty Goodness. They are formed to be co-workers and not rivals, and rivals they would undoubtedly become if the same career of public ambition, and the same rewards were open to both.—They would cease to be cherished, would be looked upon with envious eyes, and their influence for good would be lost. We do not believe it is right for woman to leave her own peculiar duties, for if she performs them properly, she will have no time to take upon herself the business of man.

Finally, we believe in the Bible; 'to the *law* and to the *testimony*,' 'let the women learn in silence;' 'but I suffer not the woman to teach or to usurp authority over the man;' 'to be discreet, chaste, *keepers of home*, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.' What shall we say to these things? Shall we throw away the word of God for a few crazy or *wise women* of the east? We think not.

## Spirit Rappers.

Those horrid, wicked assemblies of spirit rappers or 'mediums' as they are called, are doing immense mischief in our city and all over the country. We thought the delusion would die off with a few crazy headed fanatics, and we should hear no more of it, but it has not, and we feel constrained to use our influence against them. There have been those who we thought had too much mind to be carried away with them, but they have been those who were too wise and prudent in their own eyes, to seek that wisdom that cometh from above, but have been carried about with every wind of doctrine till God has given them up to believe a lie. They were not satisfied with the revelation God has made of himself in his word, but are constantly seeking for wonders and manifestations from the *seducing spirits* till God will give them up to believe a lie that they may be damned.

Until these phenomena are explained on philosophical principles we shall view them as

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coming from Satan and treat them as such;  
or they are productive of no good but much  
evil. That which is from above is pure; that  
which is from beneath is full of all evil. From  
whatever cause these wonders proceed, it is  
not good, for its effects are evil. God is not  
the author of evil. We believe that no one  
professing to be a Christian ought to have  
anything to do with these latter day wonders.

### The Felicities of Illness.

Were you ever ill; so ill that your friends  
feared to inquire for you, lest they might be told  
you were gone from their midst forever? No!  
Then you know nothing of that state which  
is capable of affording, more than any other,  
unalloyed gratification to the senses.  
True, the illness is rather serious affair, and  
withal not over agreeable; but then the re-  
covery! The weakness when the crisis is  
passed, forbidding all mental exertion,  
which might hinder the perception of those  
 indescribable sensations, known only to  
him who even yet seems suspended over the  
 yawning abyss,—and needing but a breath to  
usher him into eternity. The feeling that you  
are loved with an earnestness, for which you  
dared not hope. The consciousness that warm,  
loving hearts are praising God for this unhop-  
ed for change, and are asking in the name of the  
Nazarine for your entire recovery. To feel  
your head, which yourself have not strength  
to turn upon the pillow, raised by one gentle  
hand, while the other unwearied through the  
long watchings by your bed, brings the life-  
giving cup to your lips; and then as your head  
is returned to its place, to feel smiling lips  
pressed softly to your own, and hear low whis-  
pered words of true, christian love, breathed  
close to your ear! And all this continued day  
after day,—during your long convalescence—  
with the outbursts of joy at every exhibition of  
returning strength, the watchfulness to antici-  
pate your every desire, your own childish glad-  
ness expressed in laughter, which you are un-  
able to control—the consciousness of how very  
necessary you are to the happiness of those  
around you, more flattering than any words.

To know,—to feel all this is enough to pay  
for all one suffers in the severest sickness.  
Words cannot describe it. It is known only to  
those who have drawn very near the grave,  
and been recalled by loving prayers and gentle  
hands, to life.

It is enough to repay all yourself may en-  
dure; but what will repay the suffering,  
the agony of others, whose pain exceeds your  
own? And then, how many have no friends  
to watch beside their couch, and support their  
trembling limbs in the first attempt to walk!

It is *very* pleasant to recover; but many  
would willingly forego that pleasure and save  
their friends from the anxiety attendant on the  
preparatory steps to that most blissful portion  
of life.—*Moore's Rural New Yorker.*

**GUM ARABIC STARCH.**—Take two  
ounces of fine white gum arabic, and pound it  
to powder. Next put it into a pitcher, and pour on  
it a pint or more of boiling water (according to the  
degree of strength you desire,) and then having cov-  
ered it let it set all night. In the morning pour it  
carefully from the dregs into a clean bottle, cork it  
and keep it for use. A table spoonful of gum water  
stirred into a pint of starch that has been made  
in the usual manner, will give to lawns (either  
white or printed,) a look of newness when noth-  
ing else can restore them after washing. It is al-  
so good (much diluted) for thin white muslin and  
bobinet.—[*Scientific American.*]

**RECIPE FOR JOINING GLASS.**—Melt a little is-  
inglass in spirits of wine, and add a small quan-  
tity of water. Warm the mixture gently over  
a moderate fire. When mixed by thorough-  
ly melting, it will form glue perfectly transpa-  
rent, and which will unite broken broken glass  
so nicely and firmly that the joining will scarce-  
ly be perceptible to the most critical eye. Lime  
mixed with the white of an egg forms a very  
strong cement for glass, porcelain, &c., it must  
be done neatly, as when hard, the superfluous  
part cannot easily be smoothed down.

**BUTTER.**—The following is given as an im-  
proved method of preventing the bitter taste  
which butter has from cattle feeding on tur-  
nips, cabbages, leaves of trees, &c. Boil two  
ounces of saltpetre in a quart of water, and  
put two or more spoonfuls according to the  
quantity of milk, into the pail before milking;  
if this is done constantly, it will prevent the  
taste of turnips, but it will not be effected if  
even once neglected. This has been proved  
by twenty years experience, and if it does not  
succeed the farmers may rest assured that the  
fault arises from neglect of the dairy maid.

Four hundred years have elapsed since the  
invention of printing, yet books are not in cir-  
culation all over the globe, while the use of  
tobacco became universal within fifty years of  
its discovery.

**CHARACTER.**—We easily judge a man's char-  
acter by what he loves—what pleases him.  
If a person manifests pleasure in low and sor-  
did objects; in vulgar songs and debasing lan-  
guage; in the misfortunes of his fellows, or  
cruelty to animals, we may at once determine  
the complexion of his character. On the con-  
trary if he loves purity, modesty, truth—if  
virtuous pursuits engage his heart and draw  
out his affections—we may be satisfied that he  
is an upright man. A debased mind shrinks  
from the association of the good and wise.

### Happy Homes.

Perhaps the most perfect happiness, the tenderest sympathies, the most enduring affections, and the purest freedom on earth, is found in a Christian, well ordered family. And, doubtless, the greatest safeguards of the property, prosperity, and peace of a nation are those homes, where not only the intellect is highly cultivated, but where the moral feelings are trained for the highest and best purposes, the good of man and the glory of God.

If these propositions be true, then how very important is that charge entrusted to every head of a family? It embraces not only the few individuals in that family circle, but the *actual welfare* of the great community, of which he is a member. Alas, how great an error such a one makes, or how great a crime he commits against his family and his country, who either does not study his mission or neglects to fulfil it. It is a common remark, and universally believed, that there are very few *happy families* when compared with the number of those who cannot in any degree lay claim to such a pleasing distinction. If this be true, then what a vast beneficial influence does this *blessed* though small, in minority, exercise over society in this country, which we believe is distinguished among the nations around as having this characteristic—'Great lovers of home.'

Every one loves to visit a happy home. Every one would like to have a happy home. It is one of those things that most passes under the criticism of friends and neighbors; it is considered one of the essential necessities of life by all, esteemed a glorious luxury, and the foundation of all other temporal blessings.

How is it that we have so few really happy homes? Is the question to be answered in this way—That the most valuable things are always scarce, or that to possess what is really worth having, requires study and preparation? We are inclined thus to solve it.

Parents do not make this subject sufficiently prominent in the training of their children. Should not every mother say in her heart, when she is blessed with a daughter—'My mission now is to train my child so as to make at least one home happy.' And carrying this thought in her mind, of the eventful future of her child, that little one will appear in her estimation to be of much more importance in the economy of life than she suspected before. The mother will look at her own *cares, perplexities, fears, position in society*, and then gaze on the innocent before her, and say with almost absolute certainty of the truth.—'My child must pass through all this!' and adding as well—'Shall I not try to benefit her with my experience, that she may avoid whatever mistakes I have made? and wherein I have been

happily successful, shall I not help her to the same results by a less circuitous way!'

The teaching will of course be more from the life of the mother, as that will cling the longest to the memory, and is as pure truth. 'What my mother used to say,' has never in after life half the weight as 'what my mother used to do.'

The *way* any thing is done; the even or uneven temper is manifested; the general tone of the voice; the expression of the countenance; the prevailing habits; the style of dress; time, order, judgment, ability, management—all these are noted down with remarkable correctness, consciously, involuntary, perhaps, by the little witnesses and listeners, to be read out loud and faithfully criticised in maturer years, and more or less developed in their own characters as a correct portraiture of the originals which they have been so long studying.

The wise and judicious management of a home, where there is a family to train, is not acquired at random, suddenly, easily. It is almost a divine act; requiring good sense, forethought, great patience, forbearance, decision, order, and a large amount or rather a heart full of love. Her home must be the mother's world—her studies, her business, her pleasure, her contribution of wealth, wisdom, happiness, to the support, honor, and glory of her country.

Though the husband be the stay, support, and source of authority from which there is no appeal, nominally or really, yet without doubt, the most powerful influence is wielded by the wife, if she be a wise woman. No men are really so successful, so safe and happy in the world, as those who have loving and prudent wives. And what treasure on earth is to be compared in the estimation of all right-minded men, to the loving wife and the affectionate mother? And what sight so thrillingly happy to them, as to see around their own bright firesides those little ones whom God has graciously given them, and the mother bending over them with all the emotions of maternal solicitude? No pen has yet been fully able to picture it, and no language found fully to express it.

However men may fail in their home duties, or in their expressions of sympathy, this general fact is worthy of being recorded—that their confidence in their wives is unqualified. The exceptions are few. Among the many causes of family dissension, we believe that want of confidence in the wife is the fewest. We say this not to flatter, but to encourage the hearts of anxious wives and loving mothers. The fact cannot be disputed, that however favorable the circumstances of married life, the wife and mother has the heaviest load to carry, the greatest sufferings to endure, the greatest trial of patience, the most confinement at

home, and the least relaxation from care. But if she has the loving sympathy of her husband in hand and heart, she is the most willing laborer to be found in all the departments of life.

From the Student.  
**Leaving Home.**

BY ALBERT.

Boys, I desire to say a word to you, or to those of you who are about leaving parents and home. I imagine there are many of you, even now, planning ways, and devising means, by which to leave a good home, to go out into the world to act for yourselves. I imagine you have got the idea into your heads that you have served your parents, already, too long for what they have done for you; that because you have reached the age or sixteen, and served your parents faithfully your time ought to be your own. A mistaken idea, truly.

Boys, pause for a moment, and review the years of your past life, and reckon up the years you were in a helpless and dependent state; then reckon up the years you were in a state of wild boyhood, and how many years will you have remained, up to your present ages, on which to reckon for faithfully serving your parents.

Listen to one who has been where you now are, and who once thought as you now think. When I was sixteen, and perhaps before, I got it into my head that I had lived at home long enough; and that I had, thus far in life, paid my way. I therefore felt a strong desire to go forth into the world and act for myself. The truth was, boys, I was tired of living at home; it seemed a sort of monotonous life to me. Accordingly, I early apprised my parents of my desires, but they met with but little encouragement; and as I had been taught obedience, I gave up for the present.

At the age of seventeen, however, I succeeded in carrying my points, and was allowed to take my own course; a singular course it was, too. In the latter part of February, I set out (pedestrian style) on a journey of about three hundred miles, with a pack strapped over my shoulders, and seven dollars in my pocket. The day previous to my departure was one of life and joy. The monotony was about to be broken, and the home I had become tired of, was about to be left. I don't know that I shed any tears when I left, but I felt a sort of choking sensation when I caught a glimpse of the tear in my mother's eye. But I left with a light heart, happy in the prospect of the future.

Every thing went along cheerfully, till toward the close of the first day's travel. When I saw the sun sinking to rest in its western home, there seemed to come over me a sort of strange feeling, and ever and anon I felt a tear

trickling down my cheek. I wiped it off, but still another followed in the same channel. Why was this? Why did those tears start one after another, from my eyes? There was a cause; my mind had gone back to the spot that now began to seem dear to me. I felt that I was fairly abroad in the world, and among strangers; I felt, too, that I had indeed left home, and not till then had I felt it in all its reality.

Boys, I am aware that many of you will deem me foolish for thinking of home so soon after leaving, but let me say to those of you who are anxious to leave home and parents, and be acting for yourselves in the world, that you know not the value of a good home and kind parents until you have left them. It is not my desire to dissuade you from leaving home and going forth into the world, at the proper time, and under proper circumstances; no,—far from it. I would rather encourage young men to do so. But my object is to keep boys at home until they have become matured in mind and judgment, sufficiently to act for themselves; and to such as would leave home at the age of fifteen or sixteen (however faithful they may have been to their parents,) I would say, few have paid the debt they owe their parents.

Certain it is, that boys, at this age, are not fitted to go out into the world among strangers, and act in their own capacity. The state of society in our cities and villages (places where boys usually desire to resort) is so corrupt, that even young men are led away, and nearly ruined, ere they are aware their characters have become sullied. Then, boys, abandon the idea of leaving parents and home, and cling to them till you have seen twenty-one years, at least; and in the mean time get all the knowledge and advice from your parents you can; by so doing you will be better prepared to engage in the various avocations and duties of life.

Do not scorn or turn a deaf ear to the counsels of your father and mother; for, bear in mind, they can advise from experience—having passed through similar scenes. Then treasure up the advice of your parents, and withhold profit by it; and when duty calls you to bid adieu to the home of your childhood, resolve in your minds that you will never do aught that will bring down sorrow upon the heads of your parents.

**HINTS TO LOVERS OF FLOWERS.**—A most beautiful and easily attained show of evergreens may be had by a very simple plan, which has been found to answer remarkably well on a small scale. If geranium branches taken from luxuriant trees just before the winter sets in, be cut as for slips and immersed in soap water, they will, after drooping for a few days, shed their leaves, put forth fresh ones, and continue in the finest vigor all winter. By placing a

number of bottles thus filled in a flower-basket, with moss to conceal the bottles, a show of evergreens is easily insured for the whole season. They require no fresh water.

### ST. LOUIS LIVE STOCK MARKET. FEBRUARY, 28.

The cattle yards are but indifferently supplied this week. All kinds of live stock are scarce.

**BEEF CATTLE**—Suitable for butcher's use for the daily supply for the stalls in market, meet with ready sale at \$6 per hundred. In some few instances a shade higher is paid by butchers for those extra fatted. The demand for prime cattle is much greater than the present supply. Shippers pay on an average from \$5 50 to \$5 75. Several hundred have been sent forward since last report. There appears to be an increased demand for the Southern markets.

**HOGS**—The demand for Hogs is at present confined to the city trade. There are but very few in the pens at present. Prices seem to rule high, notwithstanding the demand is far less than for some weeks past. Heavy hogs weighing over 200 lbs, in prime condition, have been bought by butchers the present week at from \$6 to \$6 50 per 100. The unusual high rates for live stock in general seems to be firmly maintained.

**SHEEP**—Continue scarce. There are but few in market. City butchers are troubled to procure enough for the supply of their customers. No change in rates.

**CALVES**—A scarcity still exists. There have been but a very few brought in country wagons yesterday and to-day.

**FAMILY COWS**—None in market.

### St. Louis Market.

MONDAY, Feb. 28.

Business is dull, and will probably continue so until navigation improves and receipts of produce are increased which will cause some movement in the market.

**TOBACCO**—In manufactured there is a limited business with the city trade, but the market is generally dull.

**HEMP**—The market will probably open at \$100 to \$106 per ton for fair to good hemp, and strictly prime may command \$110.

**FLOUR**—In a limited way to bakers, and in supplying orders, sales range at \$3 87 1-2 a \$4 25 per bbl. for superfine and fancy, and extra from \$4 50 to \$5 per bbl.

**WHEAT**—Prime 75a76c, strictly choice red and white, 78 to 83c, fair and good from 65 to 73c, and lower grades from 50 to 60c per bushel.

**CORN**—Mixed and yellow in second hand bags 34a35c, and pure yellow in new gunnies 35a35 1-2c per bushel.

**OATS**—30a31c per bushel in second hand and new bags.

**BARLEY**—Prime summer 50c, common 40c per bushel.

**GROCERIES**—Sugar 4 3-8 to 5c per lb.; molasses 29a30c; sugar house 32c per gall.; coffee 9 7-8 to 10 1-8c; rice 5a5 1-4c per lb.

**BUTTER**—Good fair to prime roll butter we quote from 12 1-2 to 15c, packed and common roll from 8 to 11c per lb, the latter description being almost unsalable.

**CHEESE**—Common to prime Ohio 8 1-2 to 9c per lb.

**POTATOES**—The market is quiet and rather dull, especially inferior and common descriptions, which sell at 25a30c per bushel. Good and prime pink eyes and Neshanocks sell from 35 to 45c per bushel. The only receipts are by wagons.

**BEANS**—Prime white \$1 25 per bushel. Castor beans \$1 25a\$1 40 per bushel.

**HAY**—60a65c per 100 lbs timothy; loose 45a50c; common and good timothy 50a55c; prime and choice 57 1-2a60c per 100 lbs.

**WOOL**—There is none in the market, and we can only report an active demand for the article at very full rates.

**FRUIT**—Dried apples \$1 50 per bushel; peaches \$2 62 1-2a2 75 per bushel.

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